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ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE

VOL. XXX. 1912

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER

FOR

THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo Fata Vocant."

VOL. XXX.

PRINTED BY GEORGE W. GRIGG AND SON, "ST. GEORGE'S PRESS," DOVER.

1912.

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INDEX, VOL. XXX.

A Drafty's Sensations (Poetry) 43

"A Fox-Chase at Sea" 41

Abor Expedition, The 95, 108, 122, 134, 150

American Nigger's Letter, An 61

Answers to Correspondents 92, 167

Badajoz, 1812—1912 52

Births, Betrothals, Marriages and Deaths 1, 2, 22, 35, 47, 48, 63, 75, 87, 99, 111, 127, 139, 140, 153

Boxing 5, 23, 39, 48, 78, 112, 144

Colonel Lambton's Wedding 92

Contemporaries, Our 1, 21, 35, 47, 63, 75, 87, 99, 111, 127, 139, 153

Coronation Durbar of 1911, The... 7

Cricket 69, 101, 104, 113, 114, 117, 118, 141

Delhi Durbar, With the American Section at the ... 30

Depôt Notes 12, 26, 39, 54, 70, 106, 146, 163

Digest of Service, The April and December Supplements

Editorial Notes 14, 28, 40, 56, 71, 83, 120, 132, 149, 166

Editor's Corner 1, 21, 35, 47, 63, 75, 87, 99, 111, 127, 139, 153

1812 in the Peninsula 19, 34, 46, 61, 74, 86, 96, 109, 126, 138, 151, 171

English Soldiers to "Wear the Rose" 59

Fifth Battalion Notes 13, 27, 40, 55, 70, 82, 91, 107, 119, 131, 148, 164

First Battalion Notes 3, 22, 36, 48, 64, 76, 88, 100, 112, 128, 140, 158

Football 11, 25, 26, 39, 55, 117, 144, 146, 161

Forty Years' Service with the Fifth Fusiliers 17, 33, 44, 60, 73, 84

Fourth Battalion Notes 13, 26, 39, 55, 82, 90, 106, 119, 131, 148, 164

Fusilier Speaks, A (Poetry) 159

Grouser to Socrates, The (Poetry) 72

Hexpert Criticism (Poetry) 156

Hockey 26, 118

Hunting 161, 163

Indian Draft, With an 169

Letters to the Editor 14, 28, 41, 57, 71, 84, 108, 120, 167

List of Veteran Sirdars and N.C.O.'s of 45th Rattray's Sikhs 6

London Gazette, Extracts from *The* 2, 22, 35, 48, 64, 75, 87, 99, 112, 127, 149, 156

Memorial Service 59

Military Operations on the Mekran Coast, January—April, 1910; A Short Account of the ... 123, 136

Modern Oilfield, A 93

Nigger's Letter, Another 108

North Country Yarns 98, 152

Obituary Notices:—

The late Lieutenant-General W. Roberts, C.B. 2

„ Major-General T. A. Cooke, C.V.O. ... 64

„ A. Nelson 143

„ Wm. Murray 147

„ Mr. R. Power 157

R.A.T.A. 11, 38

Regimental Dinner... 92

Retrospect of 1912, A 154

"Salamanca" 92

Second Battalion Notes 10, 24, 36, 50, 66, 78, 89, 102, 115, 129, 143, 160

Second Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes 54, 69, 81, 105, 119, 146, 162

Second Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes 11, 26, 38, 53, 80, 105, 117, 130, 145, 162

Seventh Battalion Notes ... 14, 56, 70, 83, 107, 132, 165

Sheffield and District Old Comrades' Association, Parade of the 12

Shooting 14, 53, 67, 79, 91, 105, 106, 107, 148

Sixth Battalion Notes 13, 27, 40, 56, 82, 91, 107, 131, 148, 165

Sleeping Express, In the 170

Socrates and the Grouser (Poetry) 42

Soldier Anecdotes 43, 110

Sports 54, 115, 119

St. George's Day 50

St. George, The Real 58

Subscriptions Received 1, 21, 35, 47, 63, 75, 87, 99, 111, 127, 139, 153

Succession List of Officers, Additions to the 165

The Gun 168

The Three M.'s 15

Third Battalion Notes 164

Trip to Kashmir, A 16, 32, 43

Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day 14, 29, 41, 59, 72, 84, 92, 108, 120, 132, 149, 167

Zakka, The 121, 133

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER FOR THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo fata vocant."

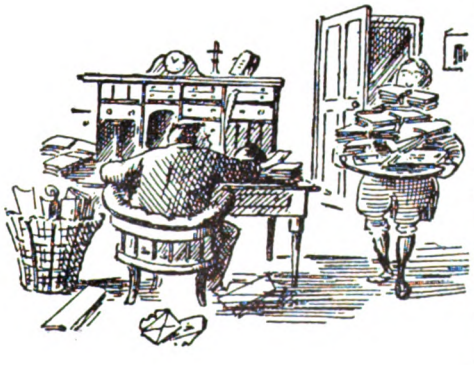
No. 349.] Wednesday, 31st January, 1912. [Vol. XXX.

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
The Editor's Corner	1	Depôt Notes	12
Our Contemporaries	1	4th Battalion Notes...	13
Subscriptions Received	1	5th Battalion Notes...	13
Births	1	6th Battalion Notes...	13
Marriages and Deaths	2	7th Battalion Notes...	14
Extracts from *The London Gazette*	2	Editorial Notes	14
Obituary Notice—The late Lieut.-General W. Roberts, C.B. ...	2	Letter to the Editor	14
1st Battalion Notes	3	Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day	14
The Coronation Durbar of 1911 ...	7	The Three M.'s (*concluded*) ...	15
2nd Battalion Notes	10	A Trip to Kashmir (*to be continued*)	16
2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes	11	Forty Years' Service with the Fifth Fusiliers (*to be continued*)	17
Parade of the Sheffield and District Old Comrades' Association	12	1812 in the Peninsula (*to be continued*)	19
		Advertisements i. to viii. and Cover	

THE EDITOR'S CORNER.

6, Washington House, Basil Street,
London, S.W.,
31st January, 1912.



Subscriptions to "St. George's Gazette" are as follows:—Officers (past and present) and their friends, 9d. per copy, post free 10d., or 10/- per annum, post free all over the world; Non-Commissioned Officers and men (past and present) and their friends, 2d. per copy, post free 3d.; or 3/- per annum, post free all over the world.

Subscriptions should be sent to the Editor; they will be duly notified in the next number of the paper after the remittances have been received.

Subscriptions are due in advance; in the event of a subscription not being paid when due, a bill will be sent (this, however, will not be done in the case of Officers serving with their Battalions, their subscriptions being paid by the Mess President yearly); should a subscription not be paid within two months in the case of a subscriber at home, or three months in the case of a subscriber abroad, after such bill is sent out, it will be assumed that no more copies of the paper are wanted. The name will then be taken off the books.

It is particularly requested that all contributions intended for insertion be sent so as to reach the Editor NOT LATER *than the 25th of each month, in order to allow of punctual publication, and that contributions be written on* ONE SIDE *only of the paper.*

Subscribers changing their addresses, Officers proceeding on leave, and Non-Commissioned Officers and Men proceeding on furlough, or leaving the Regiment, should send their addresses to the Editor.

All communications to be sent direct to the Editor.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following papers:—

"The Army Service Corps Journal"
"Military Mail"
"The Queen's Own Gazette"
"The Globe and Laurel"
"The Green Howards' Gazette"
"The Naval and Military Record"
"The XXX."
"The R.M.A. Magazine"
"The Aldershot News"
"The Antelope"
"The Tiger and the Rose"
"The Black Horse Gazette"
"The Hampshire Regimental Journal"
"The Eagle"
"The Lion and the Rose"
"The Snapper"
"The Regiment"
"The 79th News"
"The Essex Regiment Gazette"
"The Argyllshire Highlanders Regimental News"
"The London Scottish Gazette"
"The Household Brigade Magazine"
"H.L.I. Chronicle"
"The Sapper"
"The Journal of the Royal Artillery"
"The China Dragon"
"The XI. Hussar Journal"
"The 6th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers' Magazine"
"The Suffolk Regimental Gazette"
"The Green Tiger"
"The Acorn"
"The White Lancer"
"The Ranger"
"The Leinsters' Magazine"
"The Dragon"
"The Lillywhites Gazette"
"The Thin Red Line"

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions and payments for *Gazettes* from:—

Captain Auld	to 31/12/11	Qrmr.-Sergt. Porteous ...	to 31/12/12
Col. Sir Lonsdale Hale ...	,, 31/ 8/12	Colonel Heathcote ...	,, 31/12/12
General Toppin	,, 31/12/12	Colonel Rowland, C.B. ...	,, 31/12/12
Lieut.-Col. Somerville ...	,, 31/12/12	Mr. J. Howard	,, 31/12/12
J. B. Kemeys-Tynte, Esq.	,, 31/12/12	Miss Fishbourne	,, 31/12/12
Mr. R. W. Allen	,, 31/12/12	Mr. J. Byrnes	,, 31/12/12
Sec., Recreation Room, 7th Battalion	,, 31/12/12	Colonel Pearse Hobbs ...	,, 31/12/12
Mr. W. Portway	,, 31/12/12	Major Cubitt	,, 31/12/12
Mr. T. J. Garnett	,, 31/12/12	Colonel Stewart, C.B. ...	,, 31/12/12
Major Caffin...	,, 31/12/12	Major Buckley	,, 31/12/12
Major R. J. T. Stewart ...	,, 31/12/12	Major Thomson	,, 31/12/12
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Sir H. Miles, Bart.... ...	,, 31/12/12	Colonel Lambart	,, 31/12/12
Chief-Inspector H. Hart	,, 31/12/12	Mr. A. S. Calvert	,, 31/12/12
P.R.I., 2nd Battalion ...	,, 31/12/12	Mrs. Blackett Ord	,, 31/12/12
Mr. O'Neill	,, 31/12/12	Sergeants' Mess, Newburn Detachment, 4th Battalion	,, 31/12/12
Mr. G. Pickford	,, 31/12/12	Qrmr.-Sergt. Hardgrave	,, 31/ 1/13
Colonel Longbourne ...	,, 31/12/12	P.R.I., 1st Battalion	
Depôt	,, 31/12/12	P.M.C., 2nd Battalion	
Captain P. du S. Leather	,, 31/12/12	P.M.C., 5/68th R.D.	
Lieut.-Colonel Wadling...	,, 31/12/12		

BIRTHS.

GLITHERO.—On the 6th ult., at Sheffield, the wife of Armourer-Staff-Sergeant R. Glithero, attached to 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, of a son.

GREEN.—On the 19th ult., at Sheffield, the wife of No. 5238 Private C. Green, 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers of a daughter.

MELLISH.—On the 21st November, 1911, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the wife of Lance-Corporal A. Mellish, Depôt, Northumberland Fusiliers, of a son.

ROOD.—On the 26th November, 1911, at Rawalpindi, India, the wife of No. 4061 Sergeant J. Rood, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, of a daughter.

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MARRIAGES.

STAFFORD—SCOTT.—On the 19th ult., at Colaba, India, Corporal A. Stafford, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, to Miss Ethel Emily Scott.

HOBBS—PHILPOTT.—On the 19th ult., at Colaba, India, Lance-Corporal L. A. Hobbs, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, to Miss Alice Rachel Philpott.

DEATHS.

HOY.—On the 27th inst., at Sunderland, Private John Hoy, late 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, aged 41 years.

MATHEWS.—On the 22nd inst., at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Private J. Mathews, late E Company, 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, aged 60 years.

EXTRACTS FROM *The London Gazette*:—

THE NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain W. C. Wright is seconded for service on the Staff (dated 10th December, 1911). Supernumerary-Captain E. E. Williams, D.S.O., is restored to the Establishment (dated 10th December, 1911). Second-Lieutenant E. H. Baxter to be Lieutenant (dated 1st October, 1911). Captain H. W. Archer is seconded for service as an Adjutant of Territorial Infantry (dated 1st January, 1912). Supernumerary-Captain A. C. L. H. Jones is restored to the Establishment (dated 1st January, 1912).

3RD BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—C. W. C. Shipley to be Second-Lieutenant (on probation) (dated 20th January, 1912).

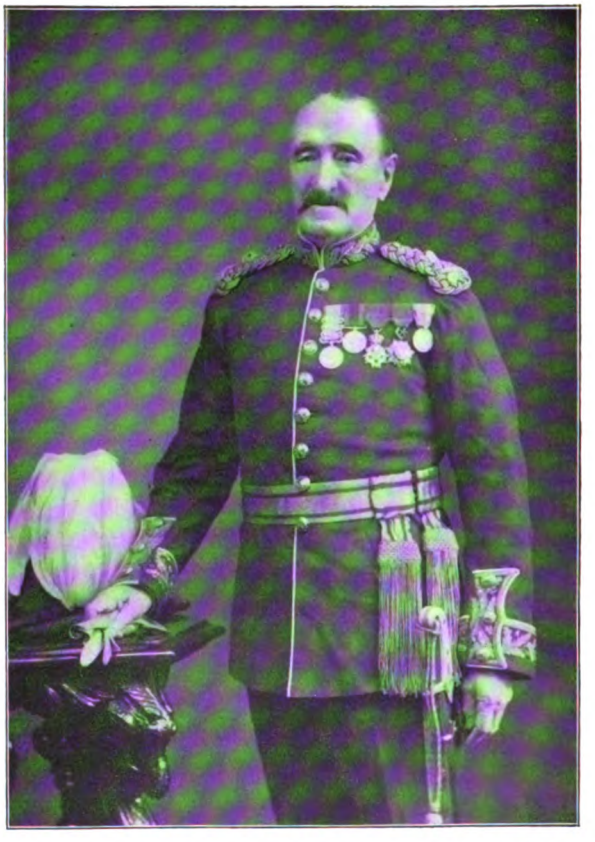
4TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—The undermentioned Officers to be Lieutenants:—Second-Lieutenants L. H. Atkinson and F. Swan (dated 25th November, 1911). E. C. Dixon and R. S. M. Logan to be Second-Lieutenants (dated 28th November, 1911).

5TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain and Hon. Major C. B. Skinner to be Major (dated 3rd July, 1911). D. Hill to be Second-Lieutenant (dated 18th November, 1911). H. L. Stafford, late Cadet, Durham University O.T.C., to be Second-Lieutenant (dated 19th November, 1911). A. N. Toovey to be Second-Lieutenant (dated 20th November, 1911).

6TH BATTALION NORTHUMBEELAND FUSILIERS.—Second-Lieutenant H. A. Ryott to be Lieutenant (dated 25th November, 1911). S. H. Ash (late Cadet Colour-Sergeant, Durham University O.T.C.), to be Second-Lieutenant (dated 14th December, 1911). Captain K. Burns resigned his commission (27th January, 1912).

7TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—The undermentioned officers resign their commissions:—Major (Hon. Captain in the Army) the Hon. J. A. Joicey and Lieutenant E. A. Mallett (dated 20th January, 1912). Captain H. W. Archer, the Northumberland Fusiliers, to be Adjutant (dated 1st January, 1912).

IT is with great regret that we record this month the death of Lieutenant-General W. Roberts, C.B., Colonel of the Gloucestershire Regiment and late of the 5th Fusiliers, who died in London on the 5th January, aged 90. Lieutenant-General Roberts, the youngest son of Major John Roberts, who served with the 71st H.L.I. throughout the Peninsular campaign, entered the Army in 1839, obtaining a commission in the 99th Regiment and being promoted to a lieutenancy in the 28th Regiment, in which he served until obtaining command in 1864, his service including the Crimean campaign and the Indian Mutiny, 1859. In the Crimea General Roberts was present at the battles of the Alma and Inkerman and at the siege and fall of Sebastopol, being mentioned in despatches and awarded the medal with three clasps, Turkish medal, Legion of Honour, and 5th class of Medjidie, with the brevet of major; in the Mutiny his services were rewarded by his being twice mentioned in despatches. It is, however, in 1866 that his connection with the 5th Fusiliers begins, for in that year Lieutenant-Colonel Roberts—as he then was—exchanged with Colonel Master, C.B., and took over the command of the 1st



THE LATE LIEUTENANT-GENERAL W. ROBERTS, C.B.
BORN: 21st August, 1821. DIED: 5th January, 1912.
(*From a photograph by Maull and Fox*).

Battalion, joining his new command in Athlone and taking them out to India.

For fourteen years, 1866-1880, during the stay of the 1st Battalion in India, Colonel Roberts was at their head, and in the Afghan war, 1879-80, he commanded a Brigade and the Bala Hissar Fortress, receiving the medal for the campaign. Promoted Major-General in 1880, he was placed on retired pay in 1883 with the honorary rank of Lieutenant-General, and received the C.B. in 1904, on the occa-

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sion of the jubilee of the Crimean war. Under him the 1st Battalion had a prosperous time, to which all who served in it look back with pleasure.

In the Crimea Lieutenant-General Roberts established a reputation for his continuous work in the trenches before Sebastopol, and this reputation for physical fitness he maintained while commanding the 1st Battalion; the sick-list never recorded his name, and he was never known to miss a parade.

Popular alike with officers and men and noted for his hospitality, General Roberts left the 1st Battalion amid universal regret.

In closing this brief notice of his distinguished career, the *St. George's Gazette*, on behalf of the 5th Fusiliers, Past and Present, offers its sincere sympathy with the late General's family in their sad loss.

1st Battalion Notes.

DEOLALI,
29th December, 1911.

THE following is the Address presented by His Majesty the King to the Commanding Officer on the occasion of the presentation of new Colours to the Battalion:—

"Lieutenant-Colonel Sapte, Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers—

"I am very glad to have this opportunity of giving new Colours to your Battalion.

"The presentation of Colours is a solemn occasion in the history of a Regiment. For you then bid farewell to the old flag, which bears upon it the records of past achievements, receiving in return a new flag, upon which it lies with you to inscribe the names of future victories.

"Recalling with pride the deeds of those who have gone before, you look forward with hope into the coming days.

"Remember that this is no common flag which I am committing to your keeping. A Colour is a Sacred Ensign; ever, by its inspiration, though no longer by its presence, a rallying point in battle. It is the emblem of duty: the outward sign of your allegiance to God, your Sovereign, and Country, to be looked up to, to be venerated, and to be passed down untarnished by succeeding generations.

"At St. Lucia in 1778, when your Regiment was already over a century old, you faced overwhelming numbers with your bayonets only, your ammunition being exhausted; and you were victorious. Maintain this great tradition in the future as you have maintained it in the past, the more strenuously, since it is now for the first time adequately recorded upon your new Colours.

"*Signed* GEORGE R.I.,

"*Delhi, 11th December, 1911.*"

An account of the Durbar has been given in another column. Only those details which are not mentioned there are given in these Notes.

On the 8th inst. we furnished a Guard of Honour to His Excellency the Viceroy on the occasion of his returning the visits of ruling chiefs to His Majesty. This guard, which was commanded by Captain Festing with Lieutenant Milne Home and Second-Lieutenant Baxter, formed the Guard of Honour to the King on the following day with Lieutenants Ovans and Sloper, on the occasion of His Majesty receiving ruling chiefs. At the conclusion of the ceremony His Majesty inspected the guard and expressed himself greatly pleased with their smart appearance. On the same day the Battalion furnished the King-Emperor's Guard, which was commanded by Captain Sandilands, with Lieutenant Stephen and Lieutenant Platt, D.S.O., as subalterns of the guard. On the 15th Captain Clifford, D.S.O., commanded the Guard of Honour to His Majesty at the ceremony of laying the foundation of new Delhi, Lieutenants Watkin and Cogan acting as subalterns of the Guard. The names of the sergeants and rank and file, who formed the last two guards, are being forwarded by this mail, those of the other two guards are not at present available but will be forwarded later.

The following is a roll of those who formed the King-Emperor's Guard on the 9th inst. and Guard of Honour to His Majesty on the 15th inst.:—

No. 1 DIVISION.

No. 4607	Col.-Sgt. W. Cobban (Commanding Division)	A Coy.	No.	1552	Pte. H. Hewitt	E	Coy.
			,,	1543	,, M. Wilkinson	E	,,
,, 9728	Pte. A. Bird	A ,,	,,	7079	L.-Cpl. H. Robertson	F	,,
,, 1496	,, W. Vines	B ,,	,,	818	Pte. E. Bowles	F	,,
,, 2156	,, J. Adams	C ,,	,,	119	,, W. Byrne	F	,,
,, 682	,, S. Cooper	C ,,	,,	816	,, W. Chesser	F	,,
,, 377	,, A. Hobday	C ,,	,,	2503	,, S. Dougherty	F	,,
,, 852	,, H. Sparham	C ,,	,,	2677	,, G. Colby	G	,,
,, 2464	,, J. Dowson	D ,,	,,	931	Corpl. W. Kennett	H	,,
,, 1158	,, E. Wood	D ,,	,,	1641	Pte. L. Farrer	H	,,
,, 8166	Corpl. J. Allen	E ,,	,,	2740	,, G. Fawbert	H	,,
,, 1190	L.-Cpl. G. Baldwin	E ,,	,,	1452	,, J. Cross	H	,,
,, 1611	Pte. H. Brown	E ,,	,,	1500	,, V. Vernon	G	,,
,, 866	,, A. J. Clarke	D ,,	,,	9936	,, R. Evans (Drm.)	G	,,

No. 2 DIVISION.

No. 8002	Sergt. A. Laws (Commanding Division)	G Coy.	No.	1576	Pte. R. Melville	D	Coy.
			,,	2548	,, W. Atkins	D	,,
,, 976	Pte. E. Adams	A ,,	,,	1109	,, P. Abthorp	E	,,
,, 16	,, Newcombe	A ,,	,,	2628	,, J. Hanlon	E	,,
,, 2533	,, W. Turnbull	B ,,	,,	2428	,, E. McDonald	E	,,
,, 2403	,, D. Brown	B ,,	,,	9964	,, J. Hutchins	E	,,
,, 1643	,, C. Edwards	B ,,	,,	2644	,, A. Moss	E	,,
,, 1921	,, W. Darling	C ,,	,,	1392	,, J. Saunders	E	,,
,, 1529	L.-Cpl. E. Monteith	C ,,	,,	2659	,, Mathison	F	,,
,, 6292	Corpl. J. Jeffs	D ,,	,,	1086	,, J. Pumford	F	,,
,, 866	L.-Cpl. A. Clarke	D ,,	,,	2828	,, J. Green	H	,,
,, 271	Pte. T. Popkin	D ,,	,,	1975	,, J. Popple	H	,,
,, 1312	,, W. Young	D ,,	,,	1535	,, H. Caulton	H	,,

No. 3 DIVISION.

No. 6000	Sergeant S. Luke (Commanding Division)	B Coy.	No.	881	Pte. J. Egan	H	Coy.
			,,	975	,, A. Ford	C	,,
,, 2607	L.-Cpl. F. Carter	H ,,	,,	2470	,, G. Garthwaith	D	,,
,, 9588	,, G. Smith	G ,,	,,	2328	,, G. Heaven	A	,,
,, 2729	Pte. A. Adcock	H ,,	,,	2508	,, J. Hastwell	E	,,
,, 9954	,, J. Bullard	A ,,	,,	1069	,, C. King	A	,,
,, 2555	,, G. Bussey	B ,,	,,	1673	,, J. McCullock	H	,,
,, 1611	,, H. Brown	E ,,	,,	840	,, J. Osborne	B	,,
,, 1672	,, J. Cain	C ,,	,,	2614	,, D. Quinn	E	,,
,, 2603	,, F. Cook	D ,,	,,	2180	,, G. Redgrave	F	,,
,, 1278	,, G. Collings	F ,,	,,	2387	,, G. Simmons	F	,,
,, 1609	,, F. Carey	H ,,	,,	2377	,, J. Young	G	,,
,, 6329	,, A. Derrick	H ,,	,,	2018	,, E. Wood	B	,,

No. 4 DIVISION.

No. 5617	Col.-Sgt. A. F. Price (Commanding Division)	E Coy.	No.	1510	Pte. Smith	A	Coy.
			,,	767	,, Craze	C	,,
,, 1203	Corpl. E. Bradford	D ,,	,,	2583	,, Brown	C	,,
,, 1937	L.-Cpl. Dodge	H ,,	,,	2478	,, Thompson	A	,,
,, 2181	Pte. Wilson	C ,,	,,	2327	,, Hogarth	A	,,
,, 1023	,, J. Curtin	E ,,	,,	9759	,, Parmenter	H	,,
,, 1136	,, C. Seabridge	E ,,	,,	2041	,, Deeks	G	,,
,, 7731	,, Mottershaw	F ,,	,,	1991	,, Lowe	G	,,
,, 1155	,, Hyde	H ,,	,,	2559	,, Dowson	C	,,
,, 718	,, Peters	B ,,	,,	2116	,, Scott	F	,,
,, 1403	,, Simons	B ,,	,,	8172	,, Fisher	A	,,
,, 778	,, Knox	B ,,	,,	2658	,, Hamilton	F	,,
,, 1199	,, Bennett	D ,,	,,	2381	,, Young	G	,,

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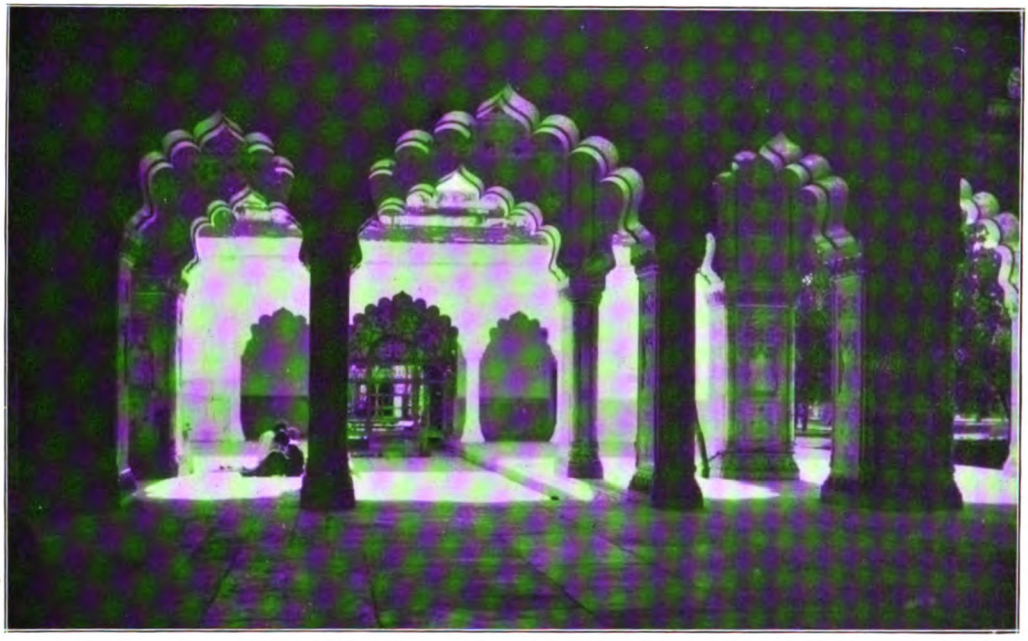
On the 15th inst. the Commanding Officer had the honour of being received by His Majesty, who graciously presented him with signed portraits of himself and Her Majesty the Queen.



DIWAN-I-KHAS, PRIVATE AUDIENCE CHAMBER, DELHI FORT.
(From a photograph by Captain Festing.)

On the 10th inst. Lieutenant-Colonel Bernard, commanding 45th Rattrays Sikhs, who was accompanied by Major McVean, D.S.O., Captain Keen and Lieutenant Wilson, Rattrays Sikhs, and Major Colvin, V.C., Royal Engineers, introduced the present native officers and the veteran native officers and non-commissioned officers of Rattrays Sikhs then in Delhi to Lieutenant-Colonel Sapte. All alike were splendid types of the native officer, and special interest was added by two of the veterans having taken part in the operations at Arrah. Colonel Bernard has kindly sent a list of the veterans with particulars of their services.

The Battalion was the first of their brigade to leave Delhi on the dispersal. We entrained at Army Camp Station about 8 p.m. on the 18th inst. and after a sixty hour railway journey reached Deolali on the morning of the 21st. The train was most uncomfortably packed during the first twenty-four hours, two extra coaches were attached on the second night affording some relief, but we were glad enough to be at the end of our journey. An old 5th Fusilier, Sergeant Cooper, late of the 2nd Battalion, drove our engine from Manmad to Deolali during the night of the 20th.

We were met at Deolali by Captain Gordon, who had come down in October to take over the draft and furlough men from England, and Major Fishbourne who had brought down the married families, depôt and regimental dogs from Rawalpindi about a week previously.

Deolali at first sight is a far more attractive place than we had anticipated. But it would be rash to commit oneself to a definite opinion after so short an experience of it, and contrary to the custom of the Service to express oneself pleased with a station in which one is serving.

Lieutenant Selby is to be congratulated on winning the Officers' Featherweight Championship of India in the Tournament held at Delhi.

We have to thank the following for Christmas greetings and cards received during the past week:—Lieutenant-General Sir A. and Lady Martin, Major-General Swann, Colonel and Mrs. Money, Colonel and Mrs. Enderby, Colonel Heard, Major and Mrs. Thompson, Major and Mrs. Bett, Captain and Mrs. Girdwood, Rev. J. Mullan, Lieutenants Chapman, Crew, Bruce, Shearer, Lane, Lawson, Officers of 1st Royal Warwickshire Regiment, 2/14th Regiment, 47th Regiment, 85th Light Infantry, 19th Lancers (F.H.), 21st Cavalry (F.F.), 5th Gurkhas (F.F.), 6th Gurkhas, 45th Rattrays Sikhs, 53rd Sikhs (F.F.), 57th Rifles (F.F.), 59th Rifles and the Warrant Officers, Staff-Sergeants and Sergeants, 1st Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

No. 2060 Acting-Sergeant-Major C. Clark, Unattached List, borne supernumerary on the rolls of the Battalion, is permitted to continue in the Service until October, 1912.

No. 575 Private J. H. Jordan has extended his service to complete 12 years with the Colours.

The following have been awarded School Certificates:—

1st Class:—

No. 4170	Col.-Sgt. Wilkinson	No. 1366	Private Ward
„ 8622	Lce.-Sgt. Gillborn	„ 2149	„ Brown
„ 1053	Corporal Martin	„ 764	„ Addams
„ 1104	Private Honey	„ 1711	„ Mould

Passed in Group I.:—

No. 522	Corporal Crouch	No. 8766	Drummer Hitchins
„ 1894	Lce.-Cpl. Grundy	„ 364	Private Bradley
		No. 9920	Private Quinn

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Passed in Book Keeping :—
No. 447 Lance-Corporal Cook

2nd Class :—
No. 2371 Private Saxby No. 2664 Private Green
No. 2773 Private Ballard

3rd Class :—

No. 2284	Private	Hosier	No. 2269	Private	Sanderson
„ 2631	„	Croft	„ 2281	„	Kerner
„ 2696	„	Stephenson	„ 2251	„	Collard
„ 2662	„	Ormston	„ 2546	„	Reeve
„ 2623	„	Griffiths	„ 2770	„	Peart
„ 2438	„	Ferguson	„ 2606	„	Armstrong
„ 2703	„	Holtby	„ 2459	„	Reed

No. 2717 Private Brammer

The following Promotions and Appointments have been made :—

To be Corporals :—
No. 9234 L.-Cpl. Thorneycroft No. 964 L.-Cpl. Weaterton
No. 6551 L.-Cpl. Howitt

To be paid Lance-Corporals :—
No. 1949 L.-Cpl. Wood No. 1029 L.-Cpl. Oxford
No. 894 L.-Cpl. Pearce

To be unpaid Lance-Corporals :—

No. 2583	Private	Brown	No. 3063	Private	Lee
„ 2689	„	Curzon	„ 1562	„	Fisk

BOXING.

Early in November we sent a few competitors to the 10th Royal Hussars' Boxing Tournament which was open to the whole of Northern India. We seem to have very little boxing talent at present and none of our men did anything except Lance-Corporal Smith who won the open lightweights : a very fine performance and in which he had to meet some of the best men in India.

For one reason or another we found great difficulty in raising a strong team for the Championships of India, which were decided at Delhi during the Durbar. Lance-Corporal Smith was a non-starter and our representatives were :—

Middleweight, Private Cooper ; Lightweights, Privates Knox and Darling; Featherweights, Privates Mortimer and Coatsworth ; Featherweight Officers, Lieutenant Selby.

In the Officers' class, nine scratched out of an original entry of eleven, and Lieutenant Selby had only Captain Williams of the R.F.A. to beat to win the competition outright. Of the rest Private Mortimer fought in splendid style, and it would be hard to find a better boxer in India : with a harder punch he would be irresistible. In a class of sixty-one competitors he got to the semi-final round, but was then just outpointed in a close fight by the ultimate winner.

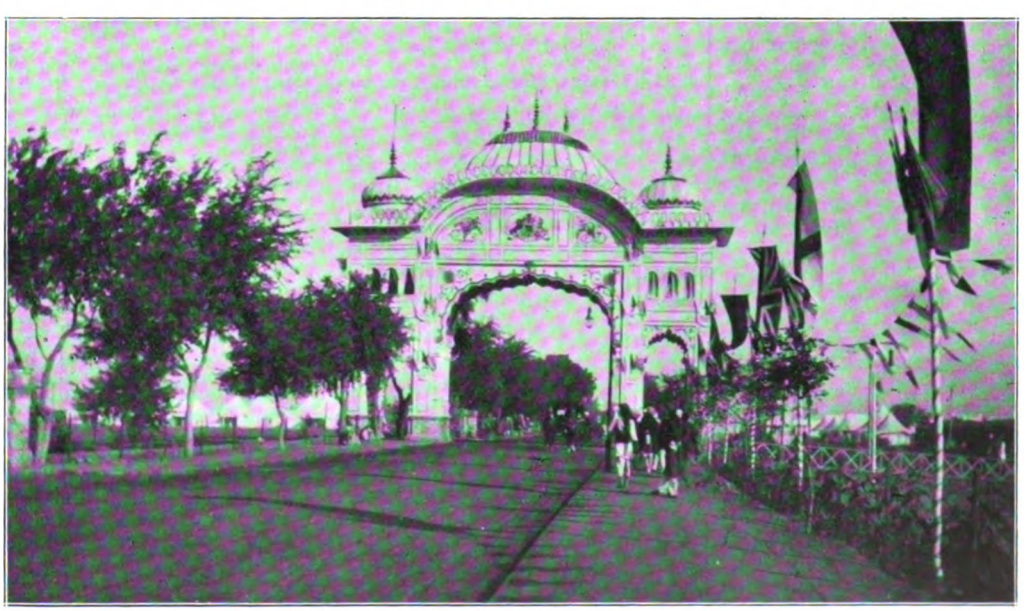
His excellent style however secured him a special six round contest on the final night against a well-known boxer who was a stone heavier and a punishing hitter. Private Mortimer however showed the better science and lasting well obtained a decision on points after a good fight.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

The move from Gharial to Rawalpindi, followed almost immediately by the shift to Delhi, must be our excuse for missing last month's Mess Notes. True, we were in Delhi for nearly a month, but the bare ground inside a 160lb. tent, surrounded by a tribe of seven or eight young Viceroys, C.-I.-C.'s and orderly corporals expounding their views on Court ceremonies and senior sergeants is not an ideal spot for inspiration.

By the time these notes are published I expect readers will be pretty well acquainted with the Durbar events, so we will not bore them with repetitions. Suffice it that we were all greatly impressed by the different ceremonies—by the honour conferred upon us by the King-Emperor presenting us with our new Colours—by the Imperial Majesty of the Queen-Empress—and by the historic occasion.

Even amongst scenes of pomp and magnificence the element of humour unconsciously creeps in. An enterprising tradesman of Delhi, whose premises were gay with



TRIUMPHAL ARCH IN KINGSWAY.
(From a photograph by Captain Festing.)

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LIST OF VETERAN SIRDARS AND N.C.O.'s OF 45TH RATTRAY'S SIKHS.

RANK AND NAME.	DATE OF ENLISTMENT.	SERVICES.	DECORATIONS.	DATE OF RETIREMENT.	REMARKS.
Subedar SUJAWAL	1856	Mutiny, Arrah House, Afghanistan, Hazara, Lushai	Mutiny Afghanistan, 1 clasp India G. S. '57, 2 clasps	1889	
Subedar-Major JIWAND SINGH ..	1872	Afghanistan, Hazara, Malakhand, Pirah, Waziristan	Afghanistan, 1 clasp India G. S., '57, 1 clasp ,, ,, '95, 4 ,,	1904	Medal of M.V.O. Honorary Captain Sardar Bahadur
Subedar JAIMAL SINGH	1876	Afghanistan, Hazara, Malakhand Tirah	Afghanistan, 1 clasp India G. S., '57, 1 clasp ,, ,, '95, 3 ,,	1901	
,, MASTAN SINGH	1871	Afghanistan, Hazara	Afghanistan, 1 clasp India G. S., '57, 1 clasp	1897	
,, SAWAN SINGH	1884	Black Mountain, Malakhand, Chakdara, Jelala, Pirah, China 1900 ..	India G. S., '57, 1 clasp ,, ,, '95, 3 ,, China	1905	
,, JAWALA SINGH	1883	Hazara, Malakhand, Chakdara, Tirah, Waziristan	India G. S., '57, 1 clasp ,, ,, '95, 3 ,,	1905	Honorary Captain Sardar Bahadur
Subedar-Major LAIHNA SINGH ..	1856	Mutiny, Arrah, Afghanistan, Hazara	Mutiny, 1 clasp Afghanistan, 1 clasp India G. S., '57, 1 clasp	1893	Honorary Captain Sardar Bahadur
Subedar ALA SINGH	1882	Black Mountain, Hazara, Suakim, Malakhand, Chakdara, Tirah and Waziristan	India G. S., '57, 1 clasp ,, ,, '95, 4 ,, Egypt, '82, 2 clasps Khedive's Star	1905	I.O.M. for Distinguished Bravery in Waziristan, 1900
,, SANGAT SINGH	1888	Malakhand, Chakdara, Tirah, Waziristan, Tibet, Zakka Khel	India G. S., '95, 4 clasps ,, ,, '08, 1 ,, Tibet	1910	Bahadur
Jemadar UTTAM SINGH	1885	Hazara, Malakhand	India G. S., '57, 1 clasp ,, ,, '95, 4 ,,	1899	I.O.M. at Malakhand, 1897, when Major Taylor was wounded
,, PREM SINGH	1886	Hazara, Malakhand, Chakdara, Tirah	India G. S., '57, 1 clasp ,, ,, '95, 4 ,,	1906	I.O.M. at Chakdara, 1897, when besieged
Havildar GURDITT SINGH ..	1882	Black Mountain, Burmah, Malakhand, Chakdara, Tirah, China, Waziristan	India G. S., '57, 1 clasp ,, ,, '95, 4 ,, China	1907	D.C. Medal
,, KAKA SINGH	1890	Malakhand, Tirah, Waziristan, Zakka Khel	India G. S., '97, 4 clasps ,, ,, '08, 1 ,,	1910	
,, MAHNA SINGH	1883	Black Mountain, Malakhand	India G. S., '57, 1 clasp ,, ,, '95, 1 ,,	1909	D.C. Medal
,, WIR SINGH	1887	Hazara, Malakhand, Chakdara, Tirah, Zakka Khel	India G. S., '57, 1 clasp ,, ,, '95, 4 ,, ,, ,, '08, 1 ,,	1908	I.O.M. for Distinguished Bravery at Chakdara, 1897
,, ATMA SINGH	1882	Central Africa, Waziristan	Central Africa, 1 clasp India G. S., '95, 1 clasp	1904	I.O.M. for Distinguished Bravery in Central Africa
,, SANT SINGH	1888	Malakhand, Chakdara	India G. S., '95, 2 clasps	1910	I.O.M. for Distinguished Bravery at Chakdara, 1897
,, SUCHET SINGH ..	1863	Afghanistan, Burma	Afghanistan, 1 clasp India G. S., '57, 1 clasp	1884	
Naick JIWA SINGH	1886	Malakhand, Chakdara, Tirah, Waziristan	India G. S., '95, 4 clasps	1906	I.O.M. for Distinguished Bravery at Chakdara, 1897

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bunting, etc., displayed the following benediction over his shop :– " God bless our Queen-Emperor and send us plenty of customers !"

How well I remember in boyhood's thoughtless, happy days, joining, with lusty voice, in the hymn " Hark ! the Herald Angels sing !" but I never realised its real significance until I heard the Delhi Herald.

THE CORONATION DURBAR OF 1911.

SINCE a rash promise was made in the 1st Battalion Notes a month ago that an account of the Durbar Celebrations might be expected to appear in the *St. George's Gazette* at a later date the illustrated papers have arrived from home. True, they were published at about the time of the arrival of the King in Delhi, but that fact has not prevented them being filled with a wealth of picturesque detail which makes a humble amateur correspondent hesitate to attempt a description, which can only be dull in comparison.

One of the most ambitious of the illustrated papers, for example, published a bird's-eye view of the Durbar area, which testified to an imagination on the part of their artist only equalled by his lack of consideration for the guileless individual who attempted to guide himself through the mazes of the concentration camps by the aid of his plan.

To justify the writing of this article it can only be urged that fact will not be sacrificed in the interests of pictureqeness, a sad confession for the meanest correspondent.

As has already been recorded the Battalion arrived at the Durbar area on the 22nd November, a fortnight before the entry of His Majesty. This fortnight was fully taken up in rehearsals, long and trying parades, which having mentioned I do no intend referring to again. This was all got through behind the scenes before the final raising of the curtain, but as we were to take a prominent part in the forthcoming pageant we had to take the opportunity, during this time, of inspecting the scene which had been laid for the reception of His Imperial Majesty, the King-Emperor.

To appreciate to the full the vast scale on which preparations had been made, apart from the tremendous organization required for the concentration it was necessary that one should have known the Durbar area as it was twelve months ago. The attention of the visitor to Delhi standing on the famous ridge at that time would be wholly taken up with Delhi city, the lofty cupola and minarets of the Jumma Masjid towering above it, and the ground stretching between, on which the bloody fights of the dark days of the Mutiny took place. To the north beyond the Native Cavalry barracks there was nothing to catch the eye, a large expanse of jungle, a few natives working in the fields, a solitary ox cart labouring along a rough country road. In this desolate stretch of country there had now arisen a vast city of canvas, intersected by roads and railways and filled with a huge concourse of people from every corner of India. A fine railway station and post office had been erected and hosts of native constables were distractedly regulating a traffic of motor cars, ekkas, tikka gharries and country carts which might well have appalled the police of London.

Looking down from the summit of the memorial monument on the ridge the scene at night was perhaps even more striking. One could not but wonder what would have been the feelings of John Nicholson, the firmest optimist of all who lay on the ridge in the fateful days of '57, if at that time when the fate of our Indian Empire hung in the balance he could have been persuaded for once to turn his eyes from the city gates of Delhi and, beholding in prophetic vision thirty-five square miles of illumination, had been told that these were the lights of the camp of those who had come to attend the Durbar of the King of England and Emperor of India.

Descending into the Durbar area one found that the Chiefs of India, few of us realised before how many there were, had vied with each other in the magnificence of their camps. Though to European taste none could approach the splendour of the camps of the Provincial Governments, many were very fine. Too many were spoilt by the introduction of a Western style of decoration, the incongruity of which made them grotesque, but to attempt to describe in detail the camps of the Native States would fill a whole volume of *St. George's Gazette*. The finest were Kashmir, Benares, Baroda and Sikkhim. The originality of the decoration of the Kashmir camp deserves special mention. The whole gateway and walls in front of the camp were of the most exquisitely carved walnut wood, and the interior of the tents draped with finest Kashmir embroidery.

The guards of Native State Troops on the camps provided a never failing source of entertainment, the types of the sentries themselves being no less varied than their arms and uniforms. The latter ranged from that of a gorgeous Uhlan with a dolman thrown over his shoulder, guarding the Gaekwar, to that of a more simply attired sentry in a poshteen and a blanket, standing guard over some frontier chief. The Kashmir Life Guards must not be forgotten. To be seen to the best advantage they should have taken up their position behind a low wall or parapet, as the martial effect of their brass helmet and cuirass was entirely marred by the khaki breeches and puttees which clad their nether limbs.

These days before the King's arrival were days of continual bustle and excitement. Governors, Lieutenant-Governors and Native Chiefs with their mounted escorts arriving hourly, guns booming out their salutes all day, and thousands of troops steadily, though less obtrusively, filling the Army camps.

The number of guns to which a native chief is entitled is a matter of the first importance to him, and it was said that a great deal of inconvenience was experienced by the railway staff from so many of them trying to time the arrival of their special trains at noon, so as to get the usual mid-day gun added to their salute.

On the 7th December the curtain rose. The Battalion left camp at 6 a.m. and marched by a circuitous route of about seven miles to Delhi city, where they lined a portion of the road near the Chandni Chowk for the State entry of His Majesty.

The shops on either side of the road, and the roofs of the houses wherever one looked were packed with natives ; the road we lined was so narrow as to barely allow room for the passage of the procession. On the arrival of His Majesty at Delhi a Royal salute of 101 guns was fired and a *feu-de-joie* ran up and down through the whole length of the route which was some five miles long. About 11 a.m. the 10th Royal Hussars, who formed the head of the King's escort, passed our point. The King was, contrary to everyone's expectations, on horse back. It is doubtful if any native in our vicinity identified His Majesty ; it is certain that two at least of our own officers did not succeed in doing so. The Queen was riding in the Royal carriage behind the King, and in the rear of the Royal carriage rode the Imperial Cadet Corps. Nothing in the procession surpassed in magnificence the young Rajahs of the Imperial Cadet Corps in their gorgeous white and gold uniform, light blue and gold lungis, mounted on the most superb horses and led by that fine old warrior Sir Pertab Singh.

The procession of the Ruling Chiefs followed the Royal procession. Some idea of the length of this procession can be got from the fact that it took close on three hours to pass us. That there was not a dull minute for us in these three hours, pestered though we were by swarms of flies and weary with long standing, will convey the interest it evoked. The spectacle was unique in its variety, its magnificence and perhaps above all in that incongruity in which modern India is unsurpassed. The cavalry of the Imperial Service Troops which formed the escorts of the larger chiefs, particularly those of Jodhpur and Bhopal compared favourably with that of our own native army. But the arms, uniform and equipment of the Native State Troops were for the most part grotesque in the extreme. Stranger still were the native retinues, frequently old men bent with age struggling along with silver maces, pikes and every kind of prehistoric weapon over their shoulders. A party

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of mounted mail-clad warriors attracted much attention, particularly the one who had assumed a pair of patent leather shoes

LAHORE GATE: DELHI FORT.
(From a photograph by Captain Festing.)

to add additional lustre to his presence for the occasion.

The most picturesque of all were the men of Sikkhim, Mongols with the faces and pigtails of women but the legs of Sandows, marching with a peculiar gait bare-legged and bare-footed in complete indifference to their surroundings.

As regards the Chiefs themselves, with those of India proper one was chiefly absorbed in admiration of the wealth of jewels they carried. Far more impressive as men were the wild chiefs of the North West Frontier Province riding in a group round the Chief Commissioner, Sir G. Roos Keppel. They needed no rubies or jewelled swords to show them off, and the rifles slung across their shoulders were no rusty flint locks.

Last of all came the Burma Chiefs followed by a Regiment of native cavalry which closed the procession.

Then for us came a seven mile march back to camp which we reached about 5 p.m. after eleven consecutive hours on our legs. We had some trying days during the Durbar week, but we had got over the worst on the first day.

On the 8th December the King unveiled the memorial tablet of the All India King Edward Memorial, which is to take the form of a bronze equestrian statue of the late King Edward VII., which will stand between the Jumma Masjid and the fort. The Battalion was not on duty in connection with the ceremony, but several of our officers attended it. The crowning point was when the King slowly mounted the steps of the pedestal and stood in the full view of the crowds collected in the Jumma Masjid and on the roofs of the adjacent houses. It is not in the nature of the native of India to cheer, though they learnt to do it fairly well before the week was over. On this occasion they acclaimed His Majesty by clapping their hands, and their enthusiasm was clearly genuine and sincere.

The 9th December was taken up by the reception by His Majesty of Ruling Chiefs. The Battalion furnished the King's Guard and also a Guard of Honour. The remainder thought they had got a day off but were disillusioned by being roped in for a rehearsal parade.

On Sunday, the 10th December, a military church parade was held on Jagatpur Island which was attended by Their Majesties and 8,000 troops.

Monday, the 11th December, was the most memorable day of the Coronation Durbar for the Battalion, for it was on this day that His Majesty presented us with our new Colours. Six other regiments were presented with Colours on this occasion, the 68th Light Infantry, 71st Highland Light Infantry, 2nd Battalion the Black Watch, 1st Battalion the Seaforth Highlanders, the 92nd Highlanders and the 1st Battalion the Connaught Rangers. The ceremony took place on the Durbar polo ground and was attended by a large number of spectators. We were formed up in hollow square, ourselves and the 68th on the right, the Connaught Rangers and the 71st on the left and the three other Highland Regiments in the centre.

After His Majesty had inspected the troops the new Colours were taken to the centre of the square, uncased and placed on the drums. The consecration service was then read by the Bishop of Lahore, the Chaplains of the Church of Scotland and the Roman Catholic Bishop. The Commanding Officers, the two senior majors and the two senior subalterns of each battalion then advanced on to their new Colours. Our colour party, Major Yatman and Captain Festing carrying the King's Colour and Regimental Colour respectively, then moved forward in slow time towards His Majesty, to whom they handed the Colours in turn. Lieutenants Selby and Lamb, kneeling before His Majesty, received the Colours, after which they rose and the Colour party retired in slow time. After all the Colour parties in succession had received their Colours, the Commanding Officers advanced, one by one, in slow time to His Majesty, who presented each with an address. The Commanding Officers, rejoining the Colour parties after this presentation, the new Colours were marched in slow time to a position facing their respective battalions. Then to "Auld Lang Syne" the old Colours, ours being carried by 2nd Lieutenants Sutherland and Vachell, were moved to the rear of the battalions. The ceremony was concluded by three cheers for His Majesty.

Lest some of our readers should by chance have been misled by spurious accounts of the ceremony which have appeared in certain organs of the Indian Press, I take the opportunity of informing them that the Highland Light Infantry are not commonly known as "The Fighting Fifth" and that the regiment which is usually known as such happened to be the one who raised their helmets on their bayonets and not the Connaught Rangers as reported.

The steadiness of the troops on parade, who stood for one hour and fifteen minutes at attention, won the admiration of all who witnessed it, and many have pronounced it as the finest and most impressive ceremony of all that took place during this week.

The 12th December was the great day on which was held the Durbar, for which the King-Emperor had travelled to India and at which he was to make the Proclamation, which contained many announcements totally unexpected but none the less gratifying to the vast majority of the people of India.

Most of the readers of *St. George's Gazette* will have seen photographs of the ceremony and read accounts by far abler pens and by those in a far better position to witness the ceremony than the present writer.

It was held in a vast amphitheatre accommodating 62,000 spectators and the arena was occupied by some 20,000 troops. In the centre stood the beautiful Royal Pavilion, a graceful gold cupola supported by four white columns on a lofty marble dais.

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The day was perfect, and the colour in the huge amphitheatre, packed with thousands of natives, was amazing. The Battalion lined either side of the road inside the amphitheatre near the entrance by which the entry was to be made. One company, under the command of Captain Clifford, D.S.O., furnished an inner section in a position from which a good view of the ceremony could be obtained. The King and Queen arrived to the salute of 101 guns, wearing their crowns and robes and driving in an open carriage with a gold awning, two natives standing behind with the gold umbrella and fan, the Indian insignia of Royalty. Passing between our lines they disappeared from our view. The arrival of their Majesties at the Durbar shamiana was signalised by the National Anthem crashed out by the massed bands of 1,400 performers, followed shortly by a flourish of trumpets telling us that the Durbar was opened. We saw nothing further of the ceremony till after the Ruling Chiefs had done homage. Their Majesties slowly mounted the dais in the centre and seated themselves on the golden thrones in the Royal Pavilion in full view of all present.

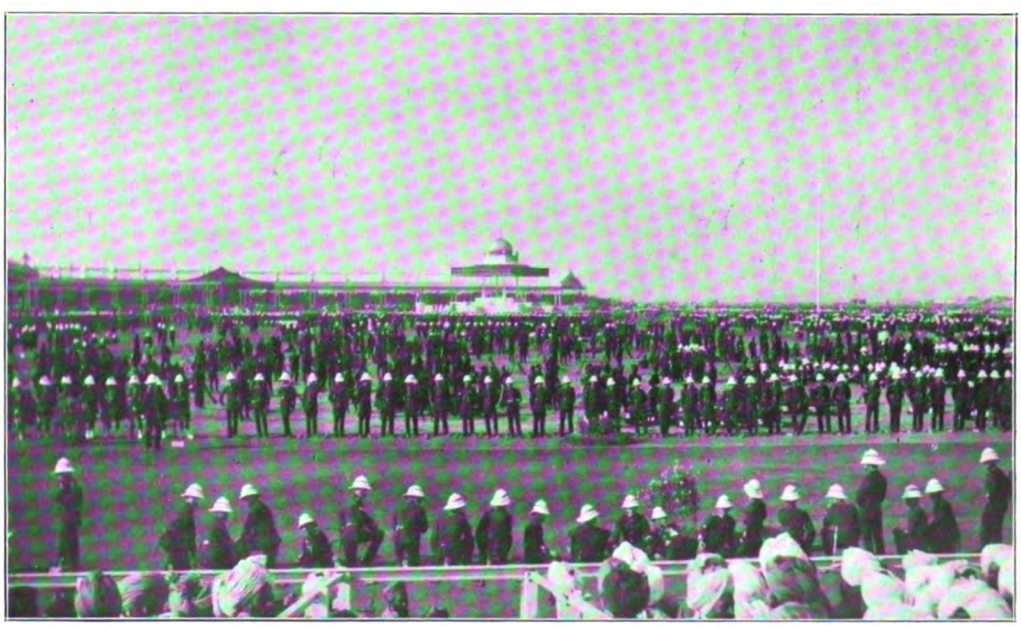
It was after this that the Proclamation was read by the Heralds, first in English and then in Urdu ; we were some 300 yards from the dais and could only catch an occasional word or two. At the conclusion of the Proclamation the bands played the National Anthem, the troops presented arms, a salute of 101 guns by salvoes of batteries was fired, and the troops outside the arena fired a *feu de joie*. The Herald and trumpeters sounded a prolonged flourish and the Viceroy from his position on the steps below the King read His Majesty's further announcement which had been awaited with so much eager anticipation. The 60,000 spectators and 20,000 troops present then gave three cheers for the King-Emperor followed by three cheers for the Queen-Empress, and their Majesties descended to their shamiana in rear of the dais and the Durbar was closed.

Such a bald and sketchy description as the above can in no way convey the deep impressiveness of the ceremony which lasted about two hours. Much has been said and written, chiefly by those who know nothing about the inhabitants of India, about appealing to the vivid imagination of the native. I venture to say that no Englishman knows in what way this great ceremony struck the mind of the native, but it can be confidently affirmed that the dullest English imagination cannot but have been deeply affected on the occasion and helped to a realisation of the greatness of our Indian Empire.

On the 15th December their Majesties held a garden party at Delhi Fort, which our officers, in company with some 10,000 other loyal subjects of the King, were honoured by a Royal command to attend. The Fort is the old palace of the Mogul Emperor Shah Jehan, and it is in the Dewan-i-Khas or Private Audience Hall of this palace that the famous Persian verse is inscribed "If paradise exists on earth, it is here." It was to the ground within the walls of this fort that the once vast empire of the Moguls was reduced after Lord Lake's victory at Delhi, in 1803, and it was here that Bahadur Shah, the last of the Mogul Emperors, was captured after the fall of Delhi in 1857. Parts of the palace are very beautiful and the interior had been restored for the occasion. Delhi Fort has seen a strange mixture of races in its time, but none stranger than on this day when the flower of the British Army, including ourselves in our new frock coats, the Princes of India smothered in priceless jewels, quaint little Burmans and wild Pathans and Baluchis with long flowing hair were collected inside its walls.

On their arrival their Majesties with the members of their suite, which included a number of gorgeously attired little Rajah pages, passed through the Dewan-i-Am into the Dewan-i-Khas. Shortly after their arrival they retired and assumed their Royal robes and crowns, after which they proceeded to the palace walls and seated themselves on two golden thrones, which were set in a place at which the Mogul Emperors used to sit in days gone by. A hundred feet below them an open maidan stretched to the river Jumna ; this vast plain was now a mass of colour filled as it was with thousands of natives enjoying a native fair. On the appearance of their Majesties on the walls this huge concourse burst into shouts of acclamation which continued for the hour during which the King and Queen remained in that position. Perhaps it was because we were at liberty to witness this at our ease, but for us it was the greatest and most impressive sight of a memorable week. I have already implied that it is a rash European who will undertake to answer for the frame of mind of an Eastern on any particular occasion. This was strongly brought before me this day when I discovered one of our friends the Baluchi Chiefs with his long curls hanging over his shoulders, squatting in the midst of this splendid assemblage cleaning his teeth and washing his face by one of the palace fountains, with the same indifference as if he was alone by one of his mountain streams. Yet in all probability this worthy, who unmoved by sight of pearls and rubies did not fail in a domestic duty at a Royal Garden Party, will carry home a more romantic and highly coloured account of the affair than the most special of all the correspondents who rushed feverishly to the telegraph office on its conclusion.

Their Majesties left the Fort at sundown, but the entertainment continued after dark with a display of fireworks which lasted till about 9 p.m.



AMPHITHEATRE ON DURBAR DAY BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF THE KING-EMPEROR.
(From a photograph by Captain Festing.)

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On the 14th December His Majesty reviewed the troops at Delhi, and 45 battalions of infantry, 13 regiments of cavalry, with 114 guns, excluding Imperial Service Troops, paraded for the review. The troops were drawn up in two lines, the infantry divisions in the 1st line in line of quarter columns, the cavalry division, Royal Horse Artillery, and Imperial Service Troops in the 2nd line. The King on arrival rode down the two lines accompanied by the Commander-in-Chief and followed by the Queen driving in the State carriage. Most of the readers of *St. George's Gazette* will have either taken part in or witnessed a review, and since all reviews are much the same though of a different magnitude, it is not proposed to give a detailed description of this one. The infantry marched past by brigades in line of quarter column, our own, consisting of 1st Battalion 5th Fusiliers, 2nd Battalion 7th Royal Fusiliers, 2nd Battalion the Black Watch, and the 92nd Highlanders was the only all-British Brigade and met with an enthusiastic reception from the spectators. The stately march past of the Maharajah of Bikanir's Camel Corps was a fine sight, and the gallop past of the Imperial Service Cavalry unequalled. The Rajahs led their own troops past; the most striking figure was the boy Maharajah of Jhodpur mounted on a beautiful white Arab galloping at the head of his cavalry. At the rehearsal parade he had led them past soberly enough, but the excitement of this day was too much for him and galloping at top speed, pursued by two distracted aides-de-camp, he altogether outdistanced his cavalry.

On the 15th a Military Tournament and Point-to-Point Races were held, and in the morning His Majesty reviewed the police. It was a pity that the Military Tournament should have inevitably clashed with this Review, which was in consequence poorly attended. Though the police played an inconspicuous part during the week, too much praise cannot be given to them for the way they performed their duties, which were of extraordinary difficulty. Officers and men were worked night and day, and their success in the control of crowds and traffic on a scale of which they had had no previous experience was wonderful.

The chief features of the Military Tournament were the trick riding by the Tiwanas of the 18th (King George's Own) Lancers, the finest horsemen of India, a musical ride by the 17th Lancers, which displayed the most masterly schooling of horses, and the musical drive of R Battery Royal Horse Artillery. The musical drive was concluded by the whole Battery teams and guns taking a three foot wall at full gallop.

The 16th December saw the departure of their Majesties from Delhi. The Battalion lined the road immediately outside the King-Emperor's camp. Their Majesties left their camp about noon and half an hour afterwards salvoes of Artillery and a *feu-de-joie* fired along the whole route announced their arrival at the Fort, outside the gates of which their trains were in waiting at Selimgarh Station.

So ended the visit of His Imperial Majesty King George V. to the Royal city of Delhi, where he had held the greatest Durbar that India has ever seen.

For our own part the work we went through was harder than any had anticipated, but it is doubtful if any had realized before the vast and magnificent scale on which the various ceremonies were to be conducted. There is no one who did not willingly undertake the work and who does not regard himself as fortunate in having witnessed the most memorable scenes of a lifetime.

As for the natives of India this at least can be truthfully affirmed, that thousands of the humbler classes were firm in their belief before the Durbar that they would not be permitted to see the King, and their satisfaction alone at having seen him close enough to be lost in wonder and admiration at His Majesty's golden beard is immense.

It is tolerably certain too that nothing they saw or heard at Delhi will lose in the telling when they return to their homes.

H. R. S.

2nd Battalion Notes.

HILLSBOROUGH BARRACKS, SHEFFIELD,
23rd January, 1912.

SINCE writing our last notes the New Year has come, and its attendant hosts of good resolutions are already beginning to recede into the distance. The passing of the old year was chiefly noticeable for the discordant uproar of steam syrens and hooters which was Sheffield's greeting to 1912. A suitably hearty greeting no doubt, but one which, in the opinion of some, would have sounded to better advantage, say, half-an-hour after reveille.

A Regimental Staff Tour was carried out between the 20th and 24th of last month under the direction of Major Turner. The Battalion, employed on lines of communication, was responsible for certain sections of the railway line and the scheme was worked out in conjunction with the Pontefract Detachment. Judging from the reports of some of the officers concerned, which must surely be a reliable source of information, the traveller on these particular sections of the Great Central Railway will find much to interest him. Station buildings barricaded and loopholed, signal boxes in a state of defence, and blockhouses guarding sundry points of tactical importance being some of the items.

The billiard room of the Officers' Mess has also been the scene of a series of conferences on the Russo-Japanese War. The desperate struggles with names in the Far East which have ensued on these occasions should prove a valuable part of our winter training and leave us better fitted to cope with those of the near west, should we go to Wales again this year.

Lieutenant-General Sir H. Plumer, K.C.B., who has lately taken over the Northern Command, inspected our barracks on the 11th inst. It was a wretched day and the parade had to be cancelled owing to the ceaseless torrents of rain.

There has been no lack of entertainment for those who care for dancing. Lady Fitzwilliam's Ball at Wentworth Woodhouse on the 27th December, the Lord Mayor's Ball at the Town Hall on the 4th, and the Sheffield Club Ball on the 9th, were all well attended by representatives of the FIFTH. We were none of us, however, able to get away for the Grove Hunt Ball at Retford, on the 10th, owing to the inspection on the following morning.

Hunting has been going strong, although, in the middle of the month, it was stopped for some days by frost and snow. Lieutenant-Colonel Enderby, Major Turner, Captain Leslie and Second-Lieutenants Brownlow, Molineux and Barkworth have been going with the Grove and the Wentworth, and Major Turner and Second-Lieutenant Brownlow ventured further afield and took a day with the

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I wish my mother could see me now,
With a fence post under my arm,
And a knife and a spoon in my putties
That I found on a Boer farm,
Atop of a sore-backed Argentine, with a
Thirst that you couldn't buy.
I used to be in the Yorkshires once
(Sussex, Lincolns, and Rifles once),
Hampshires, Glosters, and Scottish once! (ad lib),
But now I am M.I.

RUDYARD KIPLING.

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Badsworth, but were only rewarded by a fall of snow. Those who went to the Boxing Day meet of the Wentworth were pleasantly surprised by getting away from the crowds on foot and having two quite nice little runs. The two best days we have had were the 29th ult. and the 4th inst. On the former day Major Turner was with the Wentworth and Captain Leslie and Second-Lieutenant Molineux with the Grove. The latter pack had two capital runs of about forty-five and fifty minutes over their best country. The former also had two good runs of about twenty-five minutes each. On the second of these days Lieutenant-Colonel Enderby, Major Turner and Second-Lieutenant Brownlow were with the Grove and had a very good day, consisting of a short run in the morning and a fine hunt of an hour and forty minutes in the afternoon. There have been several other quite good days, and, altogether, in spite of unfavourable weather, we have had much better sport than last month.

On the 12th the married families at Sheffield were entertained to their annual tea and Christmas tree. Arrangements were made for the families to assemble in the Phœnix Theatre at the entrance to the Barracks at 3.30 where an hour's pictures were run through to the delight of the youngsters and the evident pleasure of the elders. The tea was provided in the gymnasium which was gaily decorated for the occasion by a willing band of workers. The tree, which was hidden from view till the anxious moment arrived, was very tastefully decorated by Mrs. Enderby who was assisted by Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Nicholls, and Misses Williams, Turner, Nicholls and Allan. Tea was ready when the families had all arrived from the theatre. The youngsters, evidently enjoying their tea, while the band discoursed music on the balcony, were quite eager for the disclosing of the tree to view. This ceremony was performed by Captain Williams, D.S.O., and Mr. Nicholls. Mrs. Enderby distributed the toys, at the conclusion of which the Sergeant-Major called for three cheers for Colonel and Mrs. Enderby and the ladies and officers of the Battalion. Needless to say these were given in the usual hearty manner.

No. 2303 Lance-Corporal J. Jordan has been appointed paid Lance-Corporal, from the 30th ult.

The undermentioned non-commissioned officers have been permitted to re-engage to complete 21 years' service with the Colours :—

No. 6520	Sergeant T. Smallwood	from 9/1/12
,, 6968	Lance-Corporal A. Wilford	,, 13/1/12
,, 7155	,, A. Bird	,, 23/1/12

The Battalion has had several old FIFTH non-commissioned officers attached during the month, viz., Territorial Staff Instructors, attached for instruction under the Territorial Force Regulations. Also several officers and non-commissioned officers of various Territorial regiments have been attached for a similar purpose.

Major T. H. Shoubridge, D.S.O., rejoins on the 31st inst. at Fleetwood and takes over command of the Detachment there from Lieutenant G. C. Holderness who will return to Pontefract.

R.A.T.A.

The members of the R.A.T.A., to the number of 180, sat down to a tea in the lecture room at Sheffield on the 19th inst. The room is small but every advantage was taken of the limited space, and notwithstanding the difficulty of serving under such circumstances all seemed to make good use of their time. Colonel Enderby was present and spoke to the men on the advantage of temperance. Mr. Allan also addressed them upon the decided advantages to be obtained from total abstinence. The company then made their way to the Hippodrome in the city, where 156 seats had been booked for the pantomime.

FOOTBALL.

On the 6th inst. we played the Rotherham Amateurs in the 1st Round of the Amateur Cup, and were defeated 2—0. We were unfortunate to draw this team in the 1st Round, as it is one of the best amateur teams in the district and figured in the Final only two seasons ago.

On the 13th in the Hatchard Cup League we played Woodhouse, beating them 6—0. Draper at centre-forward and Sutton at inside-left played well, and much of the large margin of victory was due to their efforts.

All other matches this month have so far had to be postponed on account of the weather.

On Thursday, the 25th inst., we are due to play the A.S.C. from Woolwich in the 3rd Round of the Army Cup. Owing to the replay of the Sheffield Wednesday—Middlesborough Cup-tie on that date, the Sheffield Wednesday ground will not be available, and the match will take place on the Niagara ground. We hear that the A.S.C. are bringing up a very strong team.

No change has taken place as regards our position in the various local leagues since those published in last month's notes.

2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes.

THE BARRACKS, PONTEFRACT,
23rd January, 1912.

ON the 2nd inst. we had a very successful Christmas tree for the children. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Holderness for her kindness in not only presenting the tree but also for arranging and distributing the presents. Following the Christmas tree was a magic lantern arranged by the Depôt which was much appreciated.

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Hunting has been considerably interfered with this month by heavy rains and frost, nevertheless we have had a few good runs. We were very glad to see Major Turner and Mr. Brownlow out with the Badsworth. The Hunt Ball took place on the 17th inst., and was attended by most of our officers.

Owing to the number of men on furlough football has been practically at a standstill this month but we hope to start again in earnest shortly. On the 11th inst. the Depôt aided by several members of the FIFTH were soundly beaten by thirty-three points to *nil* by the Pontefract Territorials whose side included some first-class players.

PARADE OF THE SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION.

THE following account of the parade of the Sheffield and District Old Comrades' Association was received too late for publication last month :—

On Sunday, the 10th December, the Sheffield and District Old Comrades' Association, at their own request, marched to Church with the 2nd Battalion. This Association has been founded by Mr. T. Moore, late Grenadier Guards, for the purpose of bringing together old soldiers and sailors in this district and, at present, numbers 164 members.

Owing to the wetness of the day the number present was not as large as expected, but about fifty fell in for the parade. These were mustered by Sergeant-Major Cooper and Colour-Sergeant Wells, and formed a separate Company immediately behind the band.

This fine Company of old soldiers and sailors represented the Royal Navy, 11th Hussars, 14th Hussars, Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, Grenadier Guards, Coldstream Guards, 5th Fusiliers, 6th, 14th and 19th Regiments, Gloucestershire Regiment, Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment), K.O.Y.L.I., 60th Rifles, York and Lancaster Regiment, Durham Light Infantry, Royal Munster Fusiliers, Royal Marines and Imperial Light Infantry, and among them wore eighty medals and 159 clasps. There was only one representative of the FIFTH, Lance-Corporal G. H. Smith, late 2nd Battalion, who had the King's and Queen's South Africa medals with five clasps.

The Company was commanded on parade by Mr. J. Firth, V.C., late Sergeant The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment).

The Band played " The Boys of the Old Brigade " marching back from Church, in honour of the old comrades, and at their request, they were inspected before being dismissed.

An account of the circumstances under which Sergeant Firth got his V.C. was kindly given to the writer, and a short resumé of the facts will probably be of interest to many readers of *St. George's Gazette*. It is interesting to note that Sergeant Firth was, at the time, serving in the Mounted Infantry Company of his Regiment with Lieutenant Gatehouse, now Captain Gatehouse of the FIFTH.

The Company formed part of General French's column operating round Colesburg in the early part of 1900. On the occasion in question about thirty non-commissioned officers and men, with Captain Wallis and Lieutenants Gatehouse and Wilson, had followed the retiring enemy too far and found themselves in a very hot corner, lying at the top of a kopje within speaking distance of a superior force of the enemy.

Sergeant Firth's first act of gallantry was to take water to Corporal Blackman who was badly wounded through both thighs. He also got the wounded man's equipment off and dressed his wounds, although to approach him looked like certain death. Shortly after this Lieutenant Wilson was wounded in the head and left lying in an exposed position within close range of the enemy. Sergeant Firth went to his assistance, and, after two unsuccessful attempts, managed to carry him to a place of safety. In doing so he was shot through the left eye. He was subsequently discharged as medically unfit on account of the loss of his eye, with a pension of 2s. 6d. a day for a year and 1s. 6d. for life. This was, later, raised to 2s. a day on account of a previous recommendation for distinguished conduct in the field.

Depôt Notes.

THE BARRACKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
23rd January, 1912.

THE Christmas Tree Festivities for the children of the 5/68th Regimental Depôts were held in the Gymnasium on the 3rd inst. Captain and Mrs. Robb and Captain and Mrs. Long kindly made all arrangements for the tea, presents and decoration of the tree. They also secured a most excellent series of cinematograph films. The result was a very successful entertainment.

We were very pleased to receive a letter from the Veterans of the 5th Fusiliers at Chelsea Hospital wishing us the compliments of the season. The letter was signed by:—

Sergeant Perry	Private Cockady
Drummer W. Mc Reon (Afghan Medal)	(Afghan Medal)
	„ Boyd
Private Sheedy (Mutiny Veteran)	„ Buck
	„ Wickwar
Private Williams	

We also received a letter from Mr. H. Hart, Superintendant of Police, Straits Settlements, asking that the *St. George's Gazette* might be sent him, and mentioning that several old 5th Fusiliers were eagerly looking forward to its arrival.

It is hoped that steps may be taken this spring to improve the Garrison Recreation Ground. At present during wet weather football becomes almost impossible on it owing to the swampy state of the ground.

Lieutenant-Colonel Roddam visited the Depôt on the 12th inst.

The undermentioned have been awarded 3rd Class Certificates of Education at Newcastle-on-Tyne, dated the 21st ult. :—

No. 3208 Pte. J. Day	No. 3251 Pte. F. Pursey
„ 3231 „ E. Lee	„ 3263 „ E. Elsworth
„ 3240 „ G. Hammond	„ 3265 „ W. Watson
„ 3248 „ W. Drummond	„ 3266 „ L. Cromack
No. 3275 Private M. Walsh	

Lieutenant P. Sidney qualified to instruct in the Maxim Gun on the termination of the course held at the School of Musketry, Hythe, on the 8th ult.

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4th Battalion Notes.

HEXHAM,
20th January, 1912.

WE have the pleasure this month of welcoming Lieutenant R. L. Routledge, M.B., R.A.M.C., 2nd Lieutenants E. C. Dickson and R. S. M. Logan on their appointment to the Battalion.

The usual Annual Prize Presentations took place at the end of last month and the beginning of this, commencing at Hexham and Haydon Bridge on the 20th ult. and finishing at Newburn on the 13th inst. Both the prizes and the points made to obtain them were fully up to the usual standard.

Our numerical weakness has been the subject of earnest consideration on the part of the County Association but up to the present no practical means of increasing it immediately to any considerable extent have been devised. It is thought that the gradual introduction of scarlet walking-out uniform and the provision of Drill Halls at Haltwhistle, Prudhoe and Hexham will eventually produce the much-to-be-desired increase. In the meantime it may be noted that although we are actually the weakest Battalion in the Brigade we have the best figures in the Brigade based on the percentage of men to the population of the Recruiting District.

Sergeant H. Copeman, 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards, has been posted as Sergeant-Instructor at Newburn in relief of Colour-Sergeant Stewart who goes to pension after twenty-two-and-a-half years' service.

5th Battalion Notes.

WALKER-ON-TYNE,
22nd January, 1912.

ON Wednesday, the 17th inst., the Gosforth Detachment held a highly successful Military Ball in the New Heaton Assembly Rooms (full suite). The decorations in the ball rooms and supper room were carried out in red and white, and the M.C.'s wore red and white roses. Upwards of 250 were present, and the different uniforms presented a brilliant spectacle. The Commanding Officer, Colonel MacDonald, and Mrs. MacDonald received the guests, after which the ball was opened by a grand march. Amongst the acceptances were Major and Mrs. Rowell, Major Grahamsley, Captain and Mrs. Myles, Captain and Mrs. Carlile, Captain and Mrs. Nash, Captain and Mrs. Soltau-Symons, Captain, Mrs. and Misses Harle, Captain Luhrs, Captain and Mrs. Proud, Captain and Mrs. Straughan, Lieutenants Thornton, Irwin, Forrett, Todd, Stafford, Holloway, Shaw, Ball, Blayney, Lieutenant and Miss Phillips, Lieutenant and Mrs. Armstrong, Lieutenant and Miss Tweedy, Lieutenant and Miss Hill, Lieutenant and Miss Toovey, Captain and Mrs. Grinling, Captain and Mrs. Gover, Major and Misses Elphick, Captain and Mrs. T. G. Boss, Captain J. G. Boss, Mr. T. L. Bainbridge, Mr. Leask, Colour-Sergeant-Instructor Durham, Sergeant-Instructor and Mrs. Offord, Colour-Sergeant and Mrs. Liddell, Colour-Sergeant Lodge, Sergeants Harbron, Smith, Merritt, Johnson and Rutter, Sergeant-Major and Mrs. Cable, etc., etc. The M.C.'s were Captains Carlile and Nash, Lieutenants Thornton, Stafford and Toovey, Colour-Sergeants Liddell and Lodge. Lieutenant Forrett and Sergeant Harbron acted as Hon. Secretaries. Music was supplied by Mr. R. Jackson, and the supper was in the hands of Mr. T. Hall.

The Gosforth Detachment held the last of their series of men's dances at Gosforth on Saturday, the 20th inst., which was even more successful than the previous ones, over ninety couples being present. The next dance will be held at Seaton Burn on Saturday, the 17th prox.

During the month we have had three new officers gazetted, and extend a hearty welcome to Second-Lieutenants D. Hill, H. Stafford and N. Toovey.

From the flattering remarks of the Editor of *The United Service Gazette*, our Battalion seems to have topped the list in the Territorial Force as regards efficiency in musketry last year. The Editor has offered us a bonus of a shilling for every recruit accepted, and a prize of £10, in addition, when we reach full establishment; this generous offer has been accepted, and we are all now hard at work to earn the ten pounds.

6th Battalion Notes.

ST. GEORGE'S DRILL HALL,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
19th January, 1912.

THE Inter-Company Shooting Competition on the Morris Tube Range was won by A Company, F Company being the runners-up and B Company 3rd. Private J. D. Fender, B Company, won the gold medal for the highest individual score.

War games are now in full swing, an Inter-Company Competition on the English Cup (Soccer) lines being fought out in the Mess Room on Thursday evenings.

The Recreation Room Committee have held several whist drives and dances of a most successful nature.

Recruiting is good, sixteen recruits having already joined, a record for this time of the year.

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Promotion Classes are in full swing and are exceptionally well attended.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

ANNUAL DINNER.

This much looked forward to event took place on Thursday, the 14th ult., in the Savoy Restaurant, Newcastle. Sergeant-Major Partington presided over the gathering, which numbered ninety, and thorough justice was done to the excellent menu provided. In the course of his response to the toast of "The Officers of the Battalion," Lieutenant-Colonel Ritson said that it was the last dinner at which he would be with us as Commanding Officer, an announcement that was received with evident regret on all sides. The reply to the toast of "The Navy and Regular Forces" was made by our newly-appointed Adjutant, Captain Athill, who, on this his first appearance among us, was given a hearty welcome. The musical programme, arranged by Sergeant W. Parkinson, which followed, was highly appreciated.

SERGEANTS' MESS SHOOT.

The Annual Shoot was held on the 1st inst. and resulted in a very keen contest; Colour-Sergeant Hutchinson succeeded in coming out the winner of the first prize. The prizes were both numerous and good. There were sixty-one entries, a very good total for the members of the Mess.

7th Battalion Notes.

ALNWICK,
24th January, 1912.

HEARTY congratulations to Lieutenant-Colonel R. Scott on his being appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Northumberland.

A Company had a very successful evening on Friday, the 19th inst., at their Annual Prize Giving. The opening item was a cinematograph display, after which the Chairman, Major Gillespie, gave a brief account of the work of the past year, and the prizes were distributed by Mrs. George Renwick. This was followed by a dance. There was a very large attendance of friends of the Company.

Colour-Sergeant-Instructors Blades and Sleath and Sergeant-Instructor Robinson have undergone a course with the 2nd Battalion at Sheffield.

Festivities are lightening the "off season." E Company held a Quadrille Party on the 19th, about 150 members and friends being present, and the non-commissioned officers are looking forward to their second Annual Ball, which, being in the new Drill Hall, should eclipse the successful venture of last year. The Berwick Detachment will dance on the 9th prox. and C Company on the 16th prox.

The strength has now reached 800.

The Territorial Force Efficiency Medal has been granted to:—

No. 61	Sergeant R. B. Appleby	A Company
„ 252	Lance-Corporal J. Patterson	B „
„ 157	Private T. Dixon	D „
„ 345	Lance-Sergeant W. Cockburn	G „
„ 203	Private J. Clark	G „
„ 23	Lance-Corporal C. Haswell	H „
„ 106	Private J. Smith	H „

Editorial Notes.

6, WASHINGTON HOUSE,
BASIL STREET, LONDON, S.W.,

WITH this issue, the first of a new volume, the *St. George's Gazette* appears in new type which it is hoped will meet with the approval of readers.

The Editor much regrets that among the list of names of the hosts at the farewell dinner to the 1st Battalion on the 25th September, 1896, published in the last number that of Colonel Robinson appeared without a (P) after it. Not only was Colonel Robinson present at the dinner and responsible for the menu and the wines, but in addition he was mainly instrumental in getting up the dinner together with Colonel Darley.

We publish this month the first of a series of drawings by our well known artist-correspondent "Tickletoby," and hope to be able to continue the series from month to month.

Letter to the Editor.

4, DANEVILLE ROAD, CAMBERWELL, LONDON, S.E.
12th January, 1912.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to the wish for information concerning my brother, No. 2722 Drummer Daniel McCarthy, expressed in the letter from Mr. S. C. Bishop in the *St. George's Gazette* for December, 1911, I beg to state he died thirty-three years ago in the city of Cork, and is buried in the new cemetery there. Two old comrades of mine in the days when Mr. Bishop served in the 5th — Sergeant James Coody and Inspector Thos. Padgett (the latter then with me in the Band) remember him well, and join me in wishing him the compliments of the season and continued prosperity in Australia.

Faithfully yours,
DENIS MCCARTHY,
Formerly Lance-Sergeant the Band, 1/5th Fusiliers.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY.

EXTRACTS FROM *ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE*,
31st JANUARY, 1887.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS, Newry, 25th January, 1887.—During the year 1886 the 1st Battalion received in the way of recruits, transfers, etc., 410 men; and during the same period sent away as transfers to India, pension, etc., 389 men; the number going to 2nd Battalion in India being 291, and the

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number joining from 2nd Battalion being four. On the 1st January, 1887, the average service of warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men was 4·9 years; the average age, 23·7 years and the average height, 5 feet 7·2 inches. The various nationalities were:—

English	424
Scotch	22
Irish	102
Other (*sic*) foreigners of sorts ...	6

There were 21 men in possession of Good Conduct Medals
There were 2 men in possession of 5 Good Conduct Badges
" " 29 " " " " 4 " " "
" " 17 " " " " 3 " " "
" " 30 " " " " 2 " " "
" " 41 " " " " 1 " " Badge

Nothing new has been heard of the rumour of our moving to Colchester in the spring and there appears every possibility of the Regiment remaining in Newry another summer.

On New Year's Day the officers gave a Christmas tree with the usual accompaniment of tea and cake to the women and children of the Garrison, to which the boys of the Regiment were also invited.

BELFAST NOTES.—The frost and snow is gone, it appears, for good. There was some very good skating to be had round Belfast while the frost lasted, but none, unluckily, very near. Some officers tried sleighing, and a sleigh constructed by the Adjutant of the 71st, consisting of two barrack chairs on runners drawn by a polo pony, caused much fun and amusement in the barrack square. If not finished it was, at any rate, serviceable and performed a journey of nearly ten miles one day.

INDIAN NOTES.—A correspondent from India has sent us the following extract from the *Pioneer* of the 24th December, 1886:—

"THE PUNJAUB POLO TOURNAMENT.

"FIRST DAY, THURSDAY, 23RD DECEMBER.

"Lahore, 24th December.—The first ties in this tournament are between the 5th Fusiliers and Lahore and 5th B.C. and the Guides. The games are being played on the Meean Meer ground. The ponies were all duly paraded and no objection raised to any of them. The arrangements are very perfect and the ground is excellent owing to a recent slight fall of rain doing wonders in allaying the dust. Lahore was represented by Mr. Pavy, Captain Manifold, Mr. Pringle and Dr. Perry. The 5th Fusiliers were represented by Captain Pilcher, and Lieutenants Willmott, James and Riddell. For the first eight minutes the play was very even and fast, the ball being kept well in the middle of the ground till Mr. James got it away and scored a fine goal for his side. An objection was raised by the Lahore back about a foul, but it was disallowed. In the second period Captain Manifold hit off the ball, which was soon run up to the enemy's goal where Mr. Pavy knocked it in scoring a goal for his side. The next hit off saw the ball again run up and rushed through. Some even play followed this success. In the third period of play Lahore kept the Fusiliers to their own ground, and after a good fight Mr. Pringle added to the Lahore score. When time was called matters stood:—Lahore three goals to the Fusiliers' one. The fourth eight minutes saw Lahore again holding matters pretty much as they liked and scoring one more goal. The game throughout was slow. Too much cannot be said in praise of Lieutenant Riddell's individual play. He played with great dash and spirit repeatedly rescuing his side when in difficulties and when determinedly assailed by the Lahore forwards."

THE THREE M.'s.

(*Concluded from page 203, December, 1911*).

CHAPTER III.

MIRACLES.

When Richard regained consciousness he found himself lying scattered upon the field of battle. How long he had lain there he knew not, but the moon and stars shining brightly above him convinced him that it must have been many hours. Strange as it may seem, he had little or no feeling of pain, and was conscious only of a numbness all over, possibly the result of remaining so long on the ground with the night dews falling over him. Indeed there could be no doubt that he had caught a severe cold in the head, as was evinced by an intense desire to wipe his nose; but as his head was one end of the blood-soddened plain and his hands the other, the obstacles to this achievement would have disheartened many a less determined man. But with the bulldog pluck and tenacity of purpose which have ever distinguished the British soldier in moments of danger and difficulty, he eventually "pulled himself together," and, using a sleeve in the absence of a handkerchief, for the time being relieved himself of the irritating and unpleasant sensation. His next discomfort was an agonising thirst, but alas! his water-bottle was gone and there was neither canteen nor coffee-bar in the vicinity. Suddenly he remembered seeing a stream early in the day and particularly noticed a clump of trees of peculiar formation standing on one of its banks. Those he now recognised in the moonlight only a few hundred yards away. Slowly, and with pain increasing with the laboured movements of his injured limbs, he dragged himself towards it. It was a long time—hours it seemed—ere he reached the bank, but arrived there, he laid flat on his stomach and leaning his head forward until his lips touched the polluted water, drank—drank as he had never done before—pausing a moment now and then to regain his restricted breath, and repeating the draughts again and again until he became surfeited. Then nature becoming exhausted, he rolled over on his side and once more became unconscious of his surroundings.

* * * * * * *

It was in one of the drawing-rooms of Austerly Castle. It is immaterial whether it was in the blue drawing-room, the white drawing-room, the gosling green or the red ochre drawing-room—suffice it that it was in one of the drawing-rooms.

The Lady Mildred was reclining on a couch, clad in deep mourning (the Lady Mildred—not the *couch*), and kneeling at her side with her hand clasped in his was the erstwhile Captain Devilian, who, through the sudden death of his uncle, had succeeded to the title and estates of Lord Multimony.

"Believe me, Mildred," he was pleading; "knowing your great love for him and the extreme danger of his mission, I begged him to let me take his place. True, as his commanding officer I could have refused him the errand and either have undertaken it myself or ordered another to perform the duty; but he pleaded so earnestly, pointing out that it was his great opportunity for the distinction and promotion he had so long yearned for, in order to bring you nearer to his reach, that reluctantly, and against my better judgment, I consented, hoping for your sweet sake, that he would safely return, in which case undoubtedly he would have received his commission. But, alas! It was not to be. Though he was successful in sending the information which alone assured us the glorious victory—when his task was practically finished and all were enthusiastic over its success—the enemy's guns shattered both him and his machine whilst he was making a triumphant descent—thus bringing to a tragic and untimely end a young and most promising career. That he must have had a presentiment of his fate is evinced by him exacting my promise, a few minutes before his departure, that, in the event of his errand terminating fatally, I would personally convey to you this lock of his hair—probably the only one now extant—and that it should be from my lips alone you should hear of the manner of his end in the perilous adventure he undertook for the love he bore you—and he added a desire that when the lapse of time had somewhat effaced the shock he

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knew this news would bring you—when you had schooled yourself to think calmly of his memory—that you might then, for his sake, endeavour to entertain a kindly thought for the messenger, and bestow a little charitable compassion on the adulation of one who has never wavered in his dog-like fidelity and devotion."

"I thank you from my heart, my Lord," replied Mildred. "Your delicate consideration and chivalrous conduct throughout—which I own greatly enhances you in my esteem—deserve a greater reward than ever I can give you. But my love for Richard was too deeply planted for it ever to be up-rooted by another."

"Do not imagine for a moment that I would wish to disturb so sacred a plant! Rather is it my desire that it may be nurtured as a bond between us, and that in course of time, out of the abundance of your love a little may be spared to one who would always willingly sacrifice himself for your happiness. This consummation was his last fervent prayer, expressed to me by Richard himself, and—"

"Lord Multimony!" announced a footman, throwing wide the drawing-room door.

If the name itself astounded the occupants, what was their astonishment when our hero, Richard himself, followed the announcement?

After the first shock of surprise was over, and realising that it was indeed he, Mildred sprang to her feet and threw herself with unerring aim into his outstretched arms; whilst, gasping and with livid countenance, the false lover remained rooted to the floor.

"You appear somewhat shaken, Captain Devilian," said Richard, after devoting a few moments to composing the agitated heroine. "Perhaps you would prefer not to be present in the last act of this drama? Yet stay, at least you are entitled to an explanation of the loss of your title and its appurtenances, which, to do you justice, you honestly assumed—probably the only honest action of your life. Know, then, they are yours no longer, my claims to them being indisputable, as will shortly be established in the House of Lords. Lest you doubt my assertion, listen to my story:—

"It is not necessary for me to dwell unduly on the events of the day of the battle of Blaises; of how, in the preceding night—unseen as you thought—you drained off most of the petrol from the tank of the aeroplane; and of how the enemy's guns mercifully saved you from being branded as a murderer. No, I will spare you as much as possible, if only for the sake of our close relationship. But it *is* necessary that you should know what that relationship is. My father was the Honourable Frugal Devilian, elder brother of the late Lord Multimony, and therefore, of your father—all alas! now deceased. You will be perfectly aware that my parents had an only child—a boy who, when three years old, was kidnapped by gypsies with a view of a reward being offered for his recovery. That boy was none other but me. It appears my mother had always had a strong presentiment that I should one day be stolen. So firmly was this conviction impressed upon her that she gave my father no rest until he consented that some unmistakable means of identification should be stamped indelibly upon my person.

Consequently, to ease her mind, the family arms and motto "Rien n'est beau que la vrai" were tattooed between my shoulders. After my disappearance from the village, near my my parents' residence, where a negligent nurse had left me unattended for some minutes' conversation with her soldier lover who was on furlough, the gypsies removed from the district, keeping me carefully concealed in the caravan, and waited for the publication of the expected reward. But my father, true to his name, did not believe in purchasing what he rightly considered was legally his own; so I was detained, much to the gypsies' chagrin and my own discomfort and neglect. For some years I remained growing up as one of themselves, they still hoping that, sooner or later, my father would relent and offer a substantial sum for my recovery.

Needless to say, the delay did not improve my treatment at their hands; and at the age of ten this had become so unbearable that I ran away. After many wanderings, picking up a living working on farms, as an errand boy, or in any other employment that offered, I eventually enlisted in the Fighting Fusiliers. And now comes the sequel.

"Among the medical men who volunteered their services for the Teutonic war was a Doctor Patchem, who had attended me for my infantile ailments from my birth to my disappearance. On the night of the Battle of Blaises he was seeking among the dead and their component parts for any wounded he might succour, when he picked up a piece of human skin on which the moon and his lantern enabled him to recognise the lower part of a crest and the familiar motto "Rien n'est beau que la vrai." Aware that in all probability the body from which it was torn was lying somewhere on the field he searched assiduously until he eventually discovered me unconscious on the river bank, and a moment's examination revealed a raw patch on my back of identical size and shape as the piece of skin; moreover, intact between my shoulders, and fitting exactly with the lower part, was the upper half of the family arms. I was removed to the hospital where I made a miraculous recovery, and from which I was discharged a week ago, with full hospital stoppages remitted. Meantime the doctor zealously hunted and discovered my old nurse (now her soldier lover's widow) and the ancient mariner who performed the tattooing operation, and between them my identity has been firmly established.

At this point of the narrative Captain Devilian, who had shown growing signs of agitation and distress, took from his waistcoat pocket a small packet which he opened, and hastily swallowing the white powder which it contained, rolled over on the floor in convulsions. Assistance was at once summoned and he was carried to a room and laid on a bed, whilst a groom was dispatched post-haste to the village for a doctor. On the latter's arrival the room was found to be empty, the captain's body was missing and he was never heard of after. The packet which had contained the powder, and the few grains which remained upon the paper, was carefully sealed up by the police who had been called in, and forwarded to the county analyst, and a few days later his report divulged the fact that it was only common sherbert.

* * * * * * * *

"It is all so wonderful and strange," said Mildred to her husband on their marriage morning, "that I can hardly yet believe it to be true. It seems almost as if you had risen from the dead."

"Not from the dead, darling," replied Lord Multimony, encircling his arm twice round her slender waist—"not from the dead, though eye-witnesses might well have come to that conclusion. What many mistook for death, an Inscrutable and All-merciful Providence decreed *should only be a trance.*"

"PRIVATE PETER PENNYWISE."

A TRIP TO KASHMIR.

(*Continued from page 189, November, 1911.*)

The approach to Srinagar presents no imposing appearance, rather the reverse, for nothing can be seen with the exception of a few dilapidated huts, but on rounding a bend in the river a splendid view of the city with its mosques and gaily painted houses is seen. The houseboat was soon the centre of attraction, for British soldiers in uniform had never before been seen, and the bridges we passed under were literally overflowing with natives. The majority of these natives followed us along the river bank to our camping ground, which had been selected by our advance party the day previous, no doubt owing to its being in close proximity to the museum and Rajah's Palace; its other attractions were a small maidan about the size of a tennis court, on which we could pitch our tents, while the State Hospital was only about 200 yards away.

The remainder of the day was mostly spent in bathing in the river, which presents a lovely sight at night with all the numerous houseboats lighted up, and one could readily understand Srinagar being called "The Venice of India."

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Our stay now became one round of pleasure both with sport and sight-seeing for we were besieged with numerous challenges from different native colleges to play them at football, cricket, hockey, etc., and one will not readily forget our first football match, for the natives played without boots, and it was really astonishing how they could run, but our fellows soon found that nipping their toes stopped their near approach to any of us. But they won, "Oh, yes," as soon as they scored they cleared, having found out they were playing another college the same night.

We were next engaged with a two days' cricket match with our very good friends the Volunteers, and here we were treated right royally, as in fact right through our stay in Srinagar, and every one of us will always remember the kindness and hospitality extended to us, which made the furlough so enjoyable.

The following day saw twelve of us on our way to the range to compete against the Volunteers in a shooting match at 200 and 500 yards, the rifles used being the old pattern Lee-Metford, and again we had to knuckle under, for we were well beaten by 46 points, our fellows arguing that it was impossible to shoot round corners.

We next visited an old temple called the "Takht i Suliman," otherwise known as the Throne of Solomon, and built 500 years B.C.; from this hill a magnificent view of the city and fort can be obtained; indeed, the panoramic view of the several different lakes makes you hesitate which part of the city to visit the following day.

We had only been encamped about three days when a British officer with a greater sense of our dignity than ourselves, ordered us to move further up the river to a more aristocratic quarter, and after much trouble and more buck-sheesh this was accomplished, and for the first time we were among the élite; but even this honour has its penalties.

The law of the river is that each houseboat can claim twenty yards either side, but we had scarcely been camped there one hour, when a lady, with a feminine disregard for all laws, brought a houseboat so close that the prows overlapped one another; it was obvious that this lady had never previously had any dealings with soldiers, and will never know the anxiety and worry she caused our party during the ten days she stopped beside us, as everyone had to keep a tight hold of himself, so as not to show an over-exuberance of spirits, indeed several of our party even tried to give more emphasis to their "H's and G's" with very sad results.

During the progress of the first cricket match, Mr. McNamara, the Manager of the Kashmir Silk Mills, invited our party to visit the mills, which offer was very gladly accepted by everyone; next morning we reported ourselves to the various overseers, who spared no pains in explaining the whole history of silk and the intricacies of the industry. Our thanks are due to Mr. McDonald and Mr. Thorpe for the very interesting morning we spent, the final of which was a close inspection of the cycle of life of the silk worm, while a small piece of raw silk which a few hours before had been a cocoon was presented to each member. This factory finds employment for over 3,000 natives, the industry taking rank second only to fruit cultivation.

One or two of the party imagined they could reel the silk of a cocoon like the native boys, but they found out that their finger tips were not sensitive enough for this delicate operation.

On our return to the houseboat, a large consignment of fruit and vegetables was awaiting our acceptance, which I need hardly say was very quickly given, with the usual thanks and best wishes to the donor, whose signature was undecipherable. This gift was only a forerunner of many other presents from the British residents who appear to have more fruit, vegetables, etc., than their Khansamahs can rob them of, and not only did we receive gifts of this kind, but the minister (Rev. Fellowes), very kindly sent us magazines, etc., and one very kind-hearted lady drove up in a trap and distributed broadcast a consignment of tracts and girls' magazines. We must not omit to mention the visit of Lieutenant Forsyth, late of the Regiment and now of the Seaforth Highlanders, who paid the penalty of seeing some of his old Regiment, for he very handsomely gave our messing agent, Rs. 30 to swell the funds.

Another invitation to visit the distillery was received, and this like the other invitations, was taken full advantage of, the speciality on arrival being the huge vats, and a taste of apple brandy twenty years old. Almost each member on leaving purchased a bottle of liqueur for which was paid annas 12, but we were all disgusted when we found that we could not get outside the gate until we had paid licence and Customs duty. We bought it cheap—we left it dear—Rs. 2, annas 6, before we could say it was ours, but we spent a lovely time nevertheless.

The houseboat in the vicinity of ours needed no alarm clocks to waken them up for their Chota Hazri, for day would hardly be breaking when everyone would rush out with a yell to plunge into the water previous to breakfast, which of course caused great amusement to our immediate neighbours, who seemed to take a delight in watching the antics of our fellows, but the evening swim caused more amusement still, for we had to cross the river to a more favourable swimming place for beginners.

The small boats used on the Jhelum in Kashmir are bow-shaped with a prow both fore and aft sticking well out of the water; they are propelled by an oar, which is the shape of a heart, and any native boy can row them straight across the river without losing a yard in spite of the river running five miles an hour; what one native boy could do easily with a single oar, six sturdy British soldiers used to fail signally to do every evening, hence the great amusement of the onlookers, who used to have a hearty laugh at our efforts to prevent ourselves from drifting more than half a mile from the point aimed at.

We now received a very kind suggestion from the Rev. Tyndale-Biscoe who offered the use of his rowing boat, so that we could visit the remarkable Dal Lake; this offer was accepted and a party armed with light refreshments set off.

While it has never been thoroughly understood, if a boat had been handled by any of them previously, the question was asked before starting if anyone could row, and in one voice everyone said they could; but to judge by their careworn faces when they returned and invited an inspection of their blistered hands it need hardly be said that they never offered themselves for rowing boats again, and should the lakes be mentioned to any of the crew the same remark was always made "What time does the train go?"

(To be continued.)

FORTY YEARS' SERVICE WITH THE FIFTH FUSILIERS.

By Mr. L. WALLACE, late Bandmaster, 2nd Batt. 5th Fusiliers).

(Continued from page 205, December, 1911).

In a kind of way the men liked the freedom of Singapore; they could go pretty well anywhere, rickshaws were cheap and so was drink, the latter sometimes called whisky because it came from a whisky bottle, but it was nothing more in most cases than a poisonous concoction of drugs that used to steal their senses away and left them the following day physical wrecks. Those who kept to honest ale didn't fare so badly, as it didn't pay for tampering with. "Tommy" does like to get a bit glorious sometimes, and then it is that he perhaps tries a change of personalities. Such a one, returning to barracks one wet and foggy night, was challenged by the sentry at the guard-room and answered "Grand rounds!" Of course the guard was hurried out and stood waiting till Grand Rounds leisurely advanced and inspected it. He then complimented the sergeant on their appearance and smartness in turning out, and finally said, "Dismiss them Sergeant; you and they are a credit to the corps." It was then discovered who the masquerader was, and the guard took care of him for that night. He was a notorious but an amusing character.

In addition to those already in possession of the Humane Society Medal, four more were granted it, bringing the total

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number up to seven, which I think is a record for one battalion. The four who received it in Singapore shewed fine courage, risking their lives for other in waters where the current was swift and treacherous and also infested with sharks and alligators. The local papers spoke very highly of the men. From accounts that I heard, one of these men must have had a varied career. He came out in a draft and joined us when the battalion was stationed in Northern India. The day after the draft had arrived it was being inspected by a young officer who had not been out long; this particular man took his eye; he looked at him puzzled for the moment and said, "Surely I have seen you somewhere before?" "Yes, sir," came the somewhat startling answer. "I was in command of your company for a time in the —— Militia." His stay with us was not for long. He used to receive large remittances from home, which he quickly squandered, being assisted by a few dear friends who readily attached themselves to him for that purpose. These bouts naturally led to interviews with the Commanding Officer, for a monied man is not always a blessing to a battalion, as in this case, and at last the fates took the matter in hand. He had received a large sum of money, which he handed over to the Paymaster for safe keeping. A few hours later a passage was booked in the first homeward bound steamer, and for his own good and the battalion's sake he was discharged and sent home.

In later years an incident occurred very similar to the one described. It occurred at a meet in Ireland. One of the huntsmen, an officer of the Regiment, rode up to another rider and said, "I have been racking my brains for some time to know where we have met before: I can't recall it, and yet your face is very familiar." "I was your colour-sergeant at Portland," replied the other with a smile.

Singapore is a land of pineapples and cocoanuts which are so cheap that you may say you get them for nothing. Now in England or in India boys and even some grown-up people imagine that they would never tire of them. Two boys, for instance, once came out to us in a draft; they were firmly of that opinion and remained absent two days, living in a paradise of plenty; then they had had enough and they crawled back dirty, hungry, and disillusioned, and quite satisfied that all is not gold that glitters. Singapore is practically "run" by the Chinese, some of whose ways seem rather strange to us. For example, they believe firmly in evil spirits and ghosts, and let crackers off at all hours of the night to frighten these uncanny visitors away. They have also a household god who reports annually the doings in that home to a supreme god, and if things have been of such a nature that they would prefer the latter to remain ignorant of them, what they do is to await the annual feast, when the report should be made, and then stuff the mouth of the household god with big hard-baked dough balls, so that as soon as he reaches the presence and tries to make his statement, he finds that the effort to speak is so impeded that he has become entirely unintelligible, and accordingly he is kicked out. Another great annual event is the feast of his ancestors, during which he eats and drinks everything himself, assuring you the while that everything is quite tasteless to him as the virtues of the dishes have been entirely absorbed by the unseen guests. One of the favourite Chinese games is a form of shuttlecock in which they keep the shuttlecock flying to and fro with the soles of their feet. At this game they are very expert. Their manners, however, are somewhat abrupt. Ask a tradesman if he can make something and the answer is short and to the point. "Can do" he says, or "No can do," at the same time nearly turning his back on you. A rickshaw coolie, seemingly out of pure spite, will let his rickshaw come to a standstill, go and sit down a little distance away, and die. At other times, if dissatisfied with his fare, he adopts drastic measures, as many a soldier knows to his cost, and the way of it is thus:—He first runs the rickshaw at full speed, and then suddenly stops, using the shafts as brakes, and throws himself down flat. Out comes the victim like a shot and before he has recovered rickshaw and coolie are out of sight. It might be expected that the Malays, who look a very hardy race, would be the predominant coloured people, and indeed they make very good gardeners, and as policemen they have few equals. They are an independent lot and as a rule will not do coolie work, which is mostly performed by Klings brought over from India.

Some of the members of our Mess and their wives had a trip round the island in one of the Government steam launches which was kindly lent for the purpose. Everything was enjoyable except for the start, for as soon as we had got well away from the protection of the island, we were met by a very rough sea which repeatedly broke over the bows of the little vessel, swamping all within reach. Everyone moved astern except one lady, who refused to move from her post of disadvantage, and as each sea broke over her she simply smiled and held on more firmly to the arms of her chair, while she watched the water which filled her lap slowly disappear. For a time the launch made very little headway, and one of the crew encouraged us by giving the pleasing information that if she shipped any water down the hatchway, it would put out the fires and the vessel would become unmanageable, with the inevitable result. This looked likely to occur at any moment, but everyone wore a mask of happiness and talked about what an exciting adventure they would have to relate when they returned. Eventually we managed to get into calmer waters, after which the few moments' peril seemed merely to have added a little spice to the trip. The island was a real sporting one, and cricket, football, tennis and racing went on merrily in turn all the year round. Rifle shooting matches were frequent events and kept well in front of the public eye by the editor of the *Singapore Free Press*, Mr. St. Clair, who was himself an excellent shot. It was he who formed a team of what was called the Annual Inter-Port Match between Hong Kong, Shanghai, Colombo and Singapore. With the assistance of the Fusiliers it was won by Singapore for the first time. Singapore and the Battalion were about equal, I think, at cricket. At football we came out top. Lieutenant Ainslie won the Tennis Championship under difficulties, as he was suffering from a "tennis arm" at the time. I myself, was lucky in winning the All Comers' Cup at the Rifle Meeting. The Warren Shield, too, was won twice by teams of ours, as clocks still shewn by certain companies commemorate, so that the Battalion may be said to have more than upheld its reputation in all branches of athletics. So time sped on until Colonel Way left us, regretted by all. He was like a father to the men, whose welfare, together with the efficiency of the Corps, was well maintained during his command. Colonel Dyke was his successor, but unfortunately a bad accident deprived us of the honour of serving long under his command.

After a year and ten months in these parts we were glad to make way for the 1st Rifle Brigade who marched in almost at the double, and I daresay they did the same to get out again. The Battalion at the time numbered over 1,200, a considerable number of whom were destined to assist in making history and adding more honours to the glory of our colours. We embarked for home on the *Cephalonia* on the 29th November, 1896. A crowd assembled next day to bid us farewell, for the Battalion had been very popular and had made friends with all Singapore. It seemed a bit cruel to those left behind, as the vessel moved off, for the band to play tunes like "Home, sweet home" and "The dear homeland" and finally, as the sound of cheering reached us faintly from the distance, "Auld lang syne." With all its faults Singapore lingered in our thoughts as a station where many pleasant days had been spent. Colombo was soon reached, and there we stayed three days, which gave us the opportunity of seeing a bit of the place, and from what I saw, I prefer Singapore. New Year's Day, 1897, saw us at Gibraltar, where the 1st Battalion were stationed. There we handed over to them a draft of 500 good seasoned fighting men. Steevens, the correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, said a year later when he recorded the marching of the 5th Fusiliers into Atbara, Soudan, "The men were not tall, but they were big round the chest and averaged nearly six years' service. The officers, long limbed, firmly knit, straight as lances. From the look of the 5th Fusiliers you might guess with safety that the young soldiers' confidence was not likely to be abashed." There was nothing emotional in the meeting of the two Battalions; in fact, they seemed

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rather like strangers to each other. But behind it all there was the will to make things pleasant, though it was considered too risky to allow more than the will to be shewn, and the powers that watched over them had taken the necessary precautions to prevent "Gib." being coloured red. The 500 left behind did try a little painting I was told, but that was all. The two bands played for an hour or so, one on the wharf, the other on the vessel, to shew the mutual good feeling between them. Then, all business having been transacted between the two Battalions, the vessel continued her voyage, the band of the 1st Battalion playing till we were out of hearing. We had a rough sea in the Bay that set all the tin cans and unsecured boxes rolling about, but this was only a reminder that we were nearing home. The morning of the 6th January was foggy, drizzly and cold as we made our way slowly to the landing stage at Southampton; but early as it was, there was Colonel Way, according to promise, one of the first to greet his old Battalion. We were soon disembarked and *en route* by rail for Portland, where we found arrangements had been made for the comfort of all. A few days there and away the Battalion went on furlough. I stayed behind about a fortnight renewing the friendships formed in olden days in the 1st Battalion. There was our old master-shoemaker, Mr. Bob Ball, as happy-looking as ever, who had come to join the 2nd Battalion in the same capacity. It wasn't long before he broke into song, the same old song that I had heard him sing thirty years before, "Sweet Evelina," with the *a* well marked. There was Sammy Wright, too, the musketry-instructor, and several others whom it did one's heart good to see again.

(To be continued).

1812 IN THE PENINSULA.

JANUARY.

THE end of 1811 found the allied British and Portuguese Army, widely scattered in its cantonments along the Portuguese Frontier, because the Portuguese Government had not supplied the necessary transport to carry supplies to the troops.

The previous campaign, which practically ended with the action at El Bodon, on the 25th September, in which the 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment played such a distinguished part, had been of a very stiff nature, the allied troops had been severely tried and their numbers much reduced. Nor could the winter quarters in the miserable Portuguese villages be described as luxurious. Good chimneys were not a feature of Portuguese cottages, and although wood was plentiful—straw for mattresses was not, there being barely sufficient to keep mules and horses alive. Rations, too, were but ill supplied, and money, owing to the pay of the troops being in arrears, was very scarce, in fact, only just sufficient for the purchase of salt and rice for the soup, while the clothing was so patched that it was difficult to recognise any corps by its uniform.

Continued rain made the cantonments unhealthy, and large numbers of men were in hospital suffering from the fever acquired in the Walcheren expedition, which any exposure seemed to bring on again. Some 20,000 were in hospital, and only about 54,000 British and Portuguese were under arms.[1]

But in spite of the condition of his army Lord Wellington continued his preparations for the next campaign, that of 1812; the troops were kept busy making fascines and gabions, a battering train was brought up and a trestle bridge for the passage of the Agueda constructed secretly. Such were the precautions taken to lull suspicion that anything was in the air, not only among the enemy but among his own officers as well, that the Quartermaster-General, Murray, was allowed to go to England on leave.[2]

However, a change of cantonments, plenty of food and some fine weather in December, 1811, materially improved the condition of the British troops and restored some thousands to the ranks. But the privations which the troops had undergone had not impaired their moral courage or their fine spirit, and the old regiments were thoroughly hard and fit.[3]

Lord Wellington's plans for the campaign of 1812 were, briefly, the capture of Ciudad Rodrigo by surprise as a beginning, to be followed by the siege of Badajos. He was driven to take this action, partly because nothing else seemed to promise success, and partly because on account of political difficulties at home, an effective blow against the French was necessary if the campaign in the Peninsula was to be carried on. The later operations depended on the success or failure of these two enterprises. Moreover, the moment was otherwise favourable on account of Napoleon's approaching Russian campaign for which he required reinforcements, and altogether some 60,000 French troops were withdrawn from the Peninsula.[4]

Marshal Marmont, lulled into insecurity by the apparently careless attitude and dispositions of the allies, had left Ciudad Rodrigo unprotected within their reach, and against this fortress Lord Wellington moved on the 1st January, 1812.

The 2nd Battalion of 5th Regiment at this period of the campaign formed part of a Brigade of the 3rd Division, the "Fighting Third" as it was called, "the most conspicuous in the whole army for its daring enterprise and indefatigable activity,"[5] commanded by General Picton, the other regiments in the Brigade at this time being the 77th and 94th.

The new year opened in bitter cold, snow covered hill and valley, and a strong frost prevailed. General Picton in a letter describes the weather on the 4th January, 1812, the day when the 3rd Division was set in motion towards Ciudad Rodrigo, thus:—"It was the most miserable day I ever witnessed; a continued snow-storm, the severity of which was so intense that several men of the Division perished of cold and fatigue."

The order to march reached the 3rd Division at 3 a.m. and at 5 a.m. the troops were under arms. As another eye-witness describes it, "the rain fell in torrents and the village was a sea of filth; the snow on the surrounding hills drifted down with the flood and nearly choked the roads . . . who had a march of nine leagues to make ere we reached the town of Robleda on the river Agueda, which was destined to be our resting place for the night. At 6.30 a.m. the Brigade was in motion . . . the rain which had fallen in the morning was succeeded by snow and sleet. The Brigade reached Robleda at 9 p.m., and went into billets."[6]

The 1st, 4th and Light Divisions also formed part of the besieging army, but owing to scarcity of food nearer Ciudad Rodrigo were obliged to keep their quarters some distance from the place, which entailed a considerable march to the trenches, carrying a day's cooked rations, for the Division on duty each day.

On the 8th January the Light Division forded the Agueda and broke ground against the fortress. As Kincaid tells us, "It still continued to be dry, frosty weather, and as we were obliged to ford the Agueda up to the middle, every man carried a pair of iced breeches into the trenches with him."[7] But such hardships were clearly recognised, and a double ration of spirits* for the working Divisions no doubt tended to compensate, if ever so slightly, for the "iced breeches."

On the 11th January the 3rd Division was on duty in the trenches suffering severely from the fire of the French. Much damage was sustained from salvos of shells which cut away parapets. During the next day, under cover of a thick fog, the riflemen dug pits in front of the trenches from which they picked off the enemy's gunners and so kept down his fire.[8]

The siege was conducted with the utmost vigour. Lord Wellington had calculated that twenty-four or twenty-five days would be required for the reduction of this fortress.[9] But on the 19th January, and the 11th day of the siege, two breaches

1 Napier: Ed. 1834. Vol. iv.
2 Maxwell. Life of Wellington, 3rd Ed., 1900.
3 Napier.
4 Napier.
5 Memoirs of Sir T. Picton. Robinson.
6 Adventures with the Connaught Rangers. Grattan.
7 Adventures in the Rifle Brigade. Kincaid.
* The troops are to have with them a day's provisions cooked, and they are to be followed by two days' spirits and no other baggage."—*Extract from Supplementary Despatches.*
8 Napier.
9 Despatches. viii., 514.

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were declared practicable and it was decided to take the place by assault after dark that night, although the approaches were not really near enough to the fortress; but time was pressing, for information had reached the British that Marshal Marmont was collecting his forces to succour the place.

The Light Division was brought across the river out of their turn, and five [10] columns were detailed for the assault composed of 3rd and Light Divisions and Pack's Portuguese. The task allotted to 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment and 94th Regiment, posted behind the Convent of Santa Cruz, with 77th Regiment in reserve, was to enter the ditch at the extremity of the counterscarp, then to escalade the "fausse braie" and scour it on their left as far as the great breach.[11] Other columns were told off for the assault of the greater and lesser breaches and for a false attack.

The following extract, taken from a memorandum entitled: "Arrangements for the assault of Ciudad Rodrigo, January 19th, 1812," shows the part which 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment were to play.

". . . . . The 5th Regiment will attack the entrance of the ditch at the point above referred to, Major Sturgeon will likewise show them the point of attack. They must issue from the right of the Convent of Santa Cruz; they must have twelve axes to cut down the gate by which the ditch is entered, at the junction of the counterscarp with the body of the place. The 5th Regiment are likewise to have twelve scaling ladders, 25 feet long, and immediately on entering the ditch are to scale the 'fausse braie' wall and are to proceed along the 'fausse braie' in order to clear it of the enemy's posts on their left towards the principal breach. . . . . The 5th Regiment will issue from the Convent of Santa Cruz ten minutes before seven." [12]

The assault was timed for 7 p.m. The 4th Division occupied the trenches while the troops of the 3rd Division destined for the attack of the great breach were drawn up in column about two gun-shots from it. About 5 p.m. as darkness was falling the sound of soft music was heard and the 43rd Regiment headed by its band without drums, leading the Light Division passed on its way to its position in the assault. A doubt now spread through the 3rd Division that it was after all only to act as a Reserve in the assault but this was soon dispelled by the order "Stand to your Arms."

Immediately all was bustle; men began to remove their knapsacks which were placed in order by companies and a guard set over them; then each man began to arrange himself for the battle in the manner he thought best, some lowering their cartridge-boxes or turning them to their front in order to get at them more easily, others unclasping their stocks or opening their shirt collars and others, again, oiling their bayonets.[13]

General Picton addressed a few words to each Regiment before the assault commenced; to the 5th Regiment he said that he knew they were men whom a severe fire would not daunt; to the 77th that he reposed equal confidence in them; to the 88th (3rd Division) "I don't mean to spend any powder this evening. We'll do this business with the *could iron*."[14]

The various columns reached their posts without seeming to attract the enemy's attention but before the signal for the assault was given the attack on the right began and was taken up along the whole line. The storming parties of 5th, 77th and 94th carried the "fausse braie" and were at the great breach before the rest of the 3rd Division could reach the works. So rapid had been the advance of the stormers of these three regiments that, though the storming parties of the remainder of the 3rd Division jumped out of the parallel when the first shout arose, they found 5th, 77th and 94th already at the great breach. Amidst the bursting of shells, the whistling of grape shot and musketry and the hoarse shouts of the French, the two columns rushed up the great breach, each striving to be first. But gallantly as this breach was assaulted, as gallantly was it defended. The French, moreover, had constructed a retrenchment behind the breach and this and two guns which flanked the breach brought the attack to a standstill. In vain did the stormers dash forward again and again; the French would not give way and the British could not get forward while officers and men, falling in heaps, quickly choked up the passage.

It was only when the 43rd, who had successfully carried the lesser breach, came down on the right of the defenders of the great breach, that the 3rd Division aided by an explosion, which while destroying friend and foe alike widened the breach, by a gallant charge fought their way into the place.

The other assaulting columns were alike successful and entered the town at the Santiago gate and from the west and the place was full of soldiers. Then discipline completely broke down and scenes of wild disorder ensued. Wine and spirit stores were broken open and the whole town was turned into a hell of drunkenness and insubordination. [15] The town was fired in several places, soldiers threatened their officers and shot one another. The great square of the town, on one side of which the captured garrison was drawn up, was filled with British and Portuguese hopelessly intermixed. Here firing broke out for no obvious reason; "some fired at the doors and windows, some at the roofs and some at the clouds, and at last heads began to be blown from their shoulders in the general hurricane, when the voice of Sir Thomas Picton with the power of twenty trumpets began to proclaim damnation to everybody." [16]

But mere vocal efforts to restore order were quite inadequate; brute force alone seemed to appeal to the reckless soldiery; musket barrels with which the great square was littered provided weapons ready to hand and peculiarly suitable for the purpose. The same eyewitness whom we have quoted above tells us that "after calling and shouting until I was hoarse in endeavouring to restore order and when my voice was no longer audible, seeing a soldier raising his piece to fire at a window, I came across his shoulders with a musket barrel which I had in my hand and demanded 'what the devil, sir, are you firing at?' To which he answered 'I don't know, sir, I'm firing because everybody else is.'" [17]

Finally the united efforts of all available officers of whatever rank succeeded in quelling the disorder and by the next morning discipline was completely restored. The 5th Division which had not been employed in the siege, marched in and took charge of the town and the besieging divisions returned to their cantonments. That some regiments had not wasted their time during the outbreak of the previous night was obvious. The opportunity had been taken to repair damage and replace defects in uniform, etc., which, in a bad state at the conclusion of the 1811 campaign, had not been improved by this dashing siege. Some men appeared in Frenchmen's coats, some in white breeches and jack boots, some with cocked hats, while articles of food in the shape of hams, tongues, and loaves of bread occupied not inconspicuous places among their equipment.

The conspicuous part played in the siege and storming of Ciudad Rodrigo by the 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment is shown in Lord Wellington's despatch of the 20th January, 1812, in which after a description of the movements of the Regiment and an eulogy on the gallantry of the 3rd Division he adds "but I beg particularly to draw your lordship's attention to the conduct of . . . . . of Major Ridge, 2nd Battalion 5th Foot, ... and of Major Grey, 2nd Battalion 5th Foot, who has been twice wounded during the siege." [18] The loss of 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment during the siege and storming amounted to one officer, one sergeant, and thirty-four rank and file killed, and nine officers, three sergeants and fifty-five rank and file wounded. Major Ridge obtained the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel and the words "Ciudad Rodrigo" were authorised to be borne on the Colours of the Regiment.

(To be continued.)

10 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
11 Napier.
12 Supplementary Despatches.
13 Adventures with the Connaught Rangers. Grattan.
14 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
15 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
16 Adventures in the Rifle Brigade. Kincaid.
17 Random Shots by a Rifleman. Kincaid.
18 Despatches.

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER FOR THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo fata vocant."

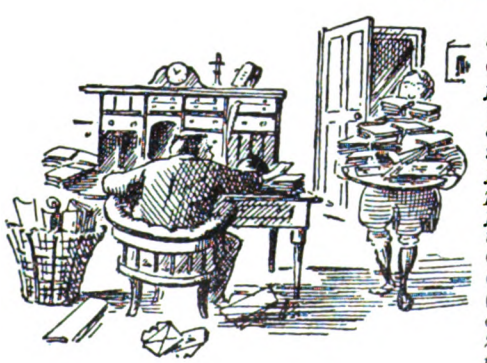
No. 350.] **Thursday, 29th February, 1912.** **[Vol. XXX.**

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
The Editor's Corner	21	Editorial Notes	28
Our Contemporaries	21	Letters to the Editor	28
Subscriptions Received	21	Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day	29
Births, Marriages and Death ...	22	With the American Section at the Delhi Durbar	30
Extracts from *London Gazette* ...	22	A Trip to Kashmir (*to be concluded*)	32
1st Battalion Notes	22	Forty Years' Service with the Fifth Fusiliers (*to be continued*)	33
2nd Battalion Notes	24	1812 in the Peninsula (*to be continued*)	34
2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes	26	Advertisements i. to viii. and Cover	
Depôt Notes	26		
4th Batalion Notes	26		
5th Battalion Notes...	27		
6th Battalion Notes...	27		

THE EDITOR'S CORNER.

6, WASHINGTON HOUSE, BASIL STREET,
LONDON, S.W.,
29th February, 1912.



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***Subscriptions** should be sent to the Editor; they will be duly notified in the **next** number of the paper after the remittances have been received.*

*Subscriptions are due in advance; in the event of a subscription **not being** paid when due, a bill will be sent (this, however, will not **be done** in the case of Officers serving with their Battalions, their **subscriptions** being paid by the Mess President yearly); should a **subscription** not be paid within two months in the case of a subscriber **at home**, or three months in the case of a subscriber abroad, after **such** bill is sent out, it will be assumed that no more copies of the **paper** are wanted. The name will then be taken off the books.*

***It is particularly requested** that all contributions intended for insertion be sent so as to reach the Editor* NOT LATER *than the 25th of each month, in order to allow of punctual publication, and that contributions be written on* ONE SIDE *only of the paper.*

Subscribers changing their addresses, Officers proceeding on leave, and Non-Commissioned Officers and Men proceeding on furlough, or leaving the Regiment, should send their addresses to the Editor.

All communications to be sent direct to the Editor.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following papers:—

"The Army Service Corps Journal"
"Military Mail"
"The Queen's Own Gazette"
"The Globe and Laurel"
"The Green Howards' Gazette"
"The Naval and Military Record"
"The XXX."
"The R.M.A. Magazine"
"The Aldershot News"
"The Antelope"
"The Tiger and the Rose"
"The Black Horse Gazette"
"The Hampshire Regimental Journal"
"The Eagle"
"The Lion and the Rose"
"The Snapper"
"The Regiment"
"The 79th News"
"The Essex Regiment Gazette"
"The Argyllshire Highlanders Regimental News"
"The London Scottish Gazette"
"The Household Brigade Magazine"
"H.L.I. Chronicle"
"The Sapper"
"The Journal of the Royal Artillery"
"The China Dragon"
"The XI. Hussar Journal"
"The 6th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers' Magazine"
"The Suffolk Regimental Gazette"
"The Green Tiger"
"The Acorn"
"The White Lancer"
"The Ranger"
"The Leinsters' Magazine"
"The Dragon"
"The Lillywhites Gazette"
"The Thin Red Line"

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions and payments for *Gazettes* from:—

Colonel Graeme	to	31/12/12	Captain M. L. Sant ...	to	31/12/12
Rev. H. Athill	,,	31/12/12	Colonel Pedley	,,	31/12/12
Countess of Pembroke ...	,,	31/12/12	Major Moulton-Barrett	,,	31/12/12
Doctor F. Collins	,,	31/12/12	Captain Wreford Brown	,,	31/12/12
Captain A. L. Cartwright	,,	31/12/12	Captain Matthews ...	,,	31/12/12
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Colonel W. H. Sitwell ...	,,	31/12/12	O.C. Prudhoe Detachment, 4th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers	,,	31/12/12
Colonel J. F. Riddell ...	,,	31/12/12	Mr. W. Dennett	,,	28/ 2/13
Mrs. Carden	,,	31/12/12	Sergeants' Mess, 5/68th Regimental Depôt ...	,,	30/ 4/13
Mrs. A. J. Girdwood ...	,,	31/12/12	Officers, 1st Battalion ...		Donation
Major R. F. Roundell ...	,,	31/12/12	P.R.I., 2nd Battalion Depôt Sales		
Mrs. A. Graham	,,	31/12/12	Mr. J. Dalzell ...		Advertisements
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The Earl of Durham ...	,,	31/12/12	E. E. Needes		
Charles Mitchell, Esq. ...	,,	31/12/12			
Lieut.-Colonel R. Scott ...	,,	31/12/12			
Major Leather	,,	31/12/12			

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BIRTHS.

BALL.—On the 15th December, 1911, at Deolali, India, the wife of No. 5225 Band-Sergeant R. Ball, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, of a daughter.

BELL.—On the 7th inst., at Castle Douglas, the wife of C. J. Bell, S.M. Civil Service, late 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, of a son.

HERBERT.—On the 26th ult., at Sheffield, the wife of No. 2312 Corporal H. Herbert, 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, of a son.

PARRANT.—On the 24th October, 1911, at Rawal Pindi, India, the wife of No. 5861 Bandsman R. Parrant, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, of a daughter.

QUAYLE.—On the 26th ult., at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the wife of No. 4652 Colour-Sergeant R. Quayle, Depôt Northumberland Fusiliers, of a daughter.

STENT.—On the 12th ult., at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the wife of No. 4924 Private R. Stent, Depôt Northumberland Fusiliers, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ATHILL—DRUMMOND.—On the 2nd inst., at St. Peter's Church, Newcastle-on-Tyne, by the Rev. H. Athill, assisted by the Rev. J. Wilkinson and the Rev. H. Cattell, Francis Remi Imbert, 5th Fusiliers, elder son of the Rev. Herbert Athill, of Digswell, Welwyn, to Olive Margaret, elder daughter of Dr. Drummond, of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

GRAYSON—BETT.—On the 12th inst., at the Church of S.S. Philip and James, Whitton, George W. E. Grayson, Seaforth Highlanders, to Christina Ellen, second daughter of Major and Mrs. J. M. Bett, Royal Military School of Music (late 5th Fusiliers).

DEATH.

WILKINSON.—On the 3rd ult., at Deolali, India, Doris, daughter of No. 4170 Colour-Sergeant C. Wilkinson, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers.

EXTRACTS FROM *The London Gazette*:—

THE NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Second-Lieutenant W. P. H. Rushbrooke to be Lieutenant (dated 23rd December, 1911). The following Gentlemen Cadets from the Royal Military College to be Second-Lieutenants:—K. G. Williams, E. S. Swaine (dated 14th February, 1912).

3RD BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—The appointment of C. W. C. Shipley to a Second-Lieutenancy (on probation) is antedated to the 15th January, 1912.

4TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Quartermaster and Honorary Captain T. A. Hedley resigns his commission (dated 3rd February, 1912). Lieutenant-Colonel and Honorary Colonel J. McC. Clark resigns his commission and is granted permission to retain his rank and wear the prescribed uniform (dated 14th February, 1912). Major and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel J. Gibson to be Lieutenant-Colonel (dated 14th February, 1912).

5TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain D. Myles to be Major (dated 13th October, 1911). T. L. Bainbridge (late Cadet, Durham University Officers Training Corps) to be Second-Lieutenant (dated 23rd December, 1911).

1st Battalion Notes.

DEOLALI,
2nd February, 1912.

ALMOST sensational announcement was made at dinner in the Officers' Mess on Monday night. A sudden and mysterious entry of the Adjutant with a telegram in his hand brought two ideas to every mind. Either the rebels, whom we have been so diligently representing or fighting with blank ammunition during the past week or two, had appeared in the flesh, or the Battalion had been ordered to Persia. The orderly officer, mindful of the unpleasant duty which fell to the lot of his predecessor in our last alarm at Pindi, endeavoured to conceal himself behind his neighbour, while those versed in the Persian tongue began to mutter "Sons of burnt fathers." The language of Omar died on their lips when the contents of the telegram were announced, and the orderly officer hastily resumed his meal.

These were to the effect that the Battalion was shortly to move to Mhow. The news was received from a private source, but was stated to be given on the highest authority. It is difficult to speak for a whole Battalion, but the change of station (if true) will be welcome to most. Some will be disappointed at not going to Bombay, but these we would comfort by the reflection that a week's furlough in Bombay in its best season conveys little idea of what a whole year at Colaba would be like. We shall be spared the supreme curse of being split up, and it is to be hoped that we shall be left undisturbed by any further move for at least two years.

The greater part of the past month was taken up with Battalion training. The country round Deolali forms an ideal training ground, and manœuvres are not hampered by crops to any serious degree. It is far easier to take an intelligent interest in operations when the firing line can advance to the attack in a rational formation instead of picking its way in single file along the edge of a cornfield under a close and heavy fire from the defence.

The only regrettable incident. which occurred during a most useful training, was brought about by a display of intelligence in the opposing leaders, unlooked for by the framer of the scheme. An encounter battle was desired and the special ideas had been framed so that, while giving either leader every reason for avoiding the other, it was at the same time inevitable that they should meet in close and bloody conflict. Napoleon and Wellington could scarcely have avoided it, but, inspired by the heat of the day, our leaders managed to skirt round each other, unseen, without a shot being fired. But alas! what can the greatest or most humane leaders accomplish when they are placed at the mercy of sanguinary umpires! The opposing armies, both in full, though leisurely, flight, were stopped, brought back and told they had *got* to fight whether they wanted to or no.

Colonel Sapte is at present in Bombay, where he proceeded on the 23rd inst. to take over temporary command of the Bombay Brigade.

We have received a very handsome present from the Officers of the 5th Gurkhas in the shape of a kukri and a koura in recollection of the time during which we were brigaded together. The kukri is the national weapon of the Gurkha,

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a long curved knife, which he puts to various purposes, from cutting his firewood to sticking in the gizzard of his enemy. The other is a rarer weapon, a huge implement half sword, half axe, which is used in these days for sacrificial purposes.

The final in the Inter-Company Association Football Tournament was played yesterday between C and G Companies and ended after a well-contested game in a victory for the former.

The following formed the King's Guard of Honour, under Captain Festing, at Delhi, on the 9th December :—

No.	6551	Corporal Howitt (Bugler)	No.	1030	Drm. Stoneham (Side-Drm.)
,,	499	Lance-Sergeant Wodehouse	,,	9798	Lance-Corporal Woodward
,,	2961	Lance-Corporal Garland	,,	2349	,, Dennett
,,	2188	Private Burton	,,	2491	Private Campbell
,,	2757	,, Crawford	,,	9565	,, Daley
,,	1460	,, Drewry	,,	2487	,, Godfrey
,,	567	,, Hassett	,,	1988	,, King
,,	2510	,, King	,,	9856	,, Major
,,	695	,, Perry	,,	1950	,, Stroud
,,	2435	,, Woolley	,,	2261	,, Paish
,,	799	,, Kellett	,,	2237	,, Harber
,,	910	,, Rogers	,,	1453	,, Cromer
,,	3075	,, Hall	,,	2532	,, Brown
,,	980	,, Elcock	,,	2267	,, Graham
,,	2554	,, Burton	,,	505	,, Baker
,,	1499	,, Cope	,,	640	,, Robins
,,	3038	,, Benge	,,	1706	,, Fawkes
,,	1027	,, Quick	,,	999	,, Rand
,,	2063	,, Sharpe	,,	2486	,, Fairley
,,	9950	,, Millway	,,	2202	,, Seymour
,,	855	,, Sproat	,,	69	Corporal Prophet
,,	1247	Lance-Corporal Johnson	,,	2093	Private Farbridge
,,	2509	Private Hunter	,,	1008	,, Payne
,,	646	,, Pickett	,,	1525	,, Povey
,,	964	Corporal Weaterton	,,	1999	Lance-Corporal Ives
,,	1501	Private Moore	,,	1571	Private Hume
,,	1820	,, Scott	,,	2833	,, Annetts
,,	2404	,, Partridge	,,	475	,, Slingsby
,,	1561	,, Hennessey	,,	1150	,, Mann
,,	2748	,, Paradise	,,	1039	,, Smith
,,	1451	,, Hayes	,,	2179	Lance-Corporal McPhee
,,	2436	,, Reed	,,	2275	Private Robson
,,	823	Lance-Corporal Gillespie	,,	2296	,, Day
,,	846	Private Crocker	,,	1710	,, Johnson
,,	2134	,, Leach	,,	2283	,, Mallett
,,	2167	,, Inglis	,,	1118	,, Hassett
,,	4629	Sergeant Harvey	,,	1224	Corporal Ashton
,,	1971	Private Wiltshire	,,	2844	Private Challis
,,	2674	,, Passmore	,,	2286	,, Want
,,	760	,, Holland	,,	189	,, Armstrong
,,	1677	,, Dawson	,,	1297	,, Storer
,,	1969	,, Stevens	,,	1908	,, Waters
,,	8117	,, Bogue	,,	998	,, Williams
,,	1449	Lance-Corporal Insley	,,	1913	Lance-Corporal Crockford
,,	798	Corporal Wadsworth	,,	1240	,, Darcy
,,	2691	Lance-Corporal Palmer	,,	1943	,, Thorne
,,	3096	Private Darcy	,,	65	Private Bottom
,,	1597	,, Baserga	,,	1762	,, Barnard
,,	1372	,, Farmer	,,	871	,, Gundy
,,	2531	,, Nettleton	,,	1866	,, O'Brien

Representatives of the Regiment, under Colour-Sergeant Cobban, to meet His Majesty on arrival at Delhi :—

No.	1429	Private Wood	No.	9759	Private Parmenter

Sub-Section under Sergeant Down :—

No.	4824	Private Bowers	No.	1142	Private Jones
,,	688	,, Hills	,,	1362	,, Andrews
,,	419	,, Hayes	,,	833	,, Jeffries
,,	993	,, Pilkington	,,	9224	,, Radforth
,,	318	,, Wheeldon	,,	6103	,, Norwich
,,	7731	,, Mottershaw	,,	846	,, Crocker
,,	867	,, Challis	,,	8117	,, Bogue
,,	232	,, Phillips	,,	1476	,, Proffitt

The following Promotions and Appointments have been made :—

To be Sergeants :—

No.	8622	Lance-Sergeant	L. Gillborn	from 30/12/11
,,	511	,,	H. Gowler	,, 18/ 1/12

To be paid Lance-Sergeants :—

No.	522	Corporal	J. Crouch	from 30/12/11
,,	11	,,	P. Griffin	,, 18/ 1/12

To be Corporals :—

No.	8867	Lance-Corporal	J. Westoby	from 30/12/11
,,	1190	,,	G. Baldwin	,, 18/ 1/12

To be paid Lance-Corporals :—

No.	1270	Lance-Corporal	J. Chilton	from 30/12/11
,,	2601	,,	E. Griffiths	,, 10/ 1/12
,,	1440	,,	E. Ellis	,, 10/ 1/12
,,	1168	,,	W. Knapp	,, 18/ 1/12

To be unpaid Lance-Corporals :—

No.	2554	Private	J. Burton	from 8/ 1/12
,,	2365	,,	W. Munt	,, 8/ 1/12

To be Bandsmen :—

No.	1357	Private	A. Brace	from 15/11/11
,,	8182	Lance-Corporal	J. Jacobs	,, 30/12/11
,,	1755	Private	A. May	,, 27/ 1/12

The following have extended their service to complete 12 years with the Colours :—

No. 181 Lance-Corporal A. Paterson
,, 9565 Private J. Daley

No. 6940 Bandsman H. V. Seavers re-engaged at Deolali for the Northumberland Fusiliers to complete 21 years' service on the 13th ult.

The undermentioned are awarded Certificates for Supply Duties, dated 3/11/11 :—

No. 50 L.-Sgt. J. R. Truscott — No. 1449 L.-Cpl. R. Insley
,, 1840 L.-Cpl. C. Stratford — ,, 823 ,, H. Gillespie
No. 1611 Private H. Brown

The undermentioned are awarded Butchery Certificates, dated 19/10/11 :—

No. 1949 L.-Cpl. E. M. Wood — No. 2702 Pte. W. Smith
,, 2524 Pte. A. Atkinson — ,, 2559 ,, J. Dowson

BOXING.

Private Mortimer was selected to represent the Army in India in the Featherweight Class against the representative of the Royal Navy in a series of contests recently arranged at Bombay. We did not see the fight but are informed that Mortimer fought splendidly, and that after the third round there was only one man in it, the contest being stopped and the decision given to Mortimer in the seventh round.

A Novices' competition was held at Deolali on the 30th and 31st ult. The entries were fair, but the form displayed poor, and it is evident that enough advantage is not being taken of the lessons taught by the Regimental boxing instructors. The following are the results :—

FEATHERWEIGHTS.

1st Round.

Private Noble, H Coy., beat Corporal Weaterton, E Coy.
Private Forrest, C Coy., beat Private Armstrong, G Coy.
Private Wilkinson, A Coy., beat Private Potter (1442), F Coy.

2nd Round.

Private Banks, B Coy., beat Private Gray, E Coy.
Private Coatsworth, B Coy., beat Private Noble, H Coy.
Private Forrest, C Coy., beat Private Pridmore, H Coy.
Private Wilkinson, A Coy., beat Private Hume, E Coy.

Semi-Finals.

Private Forrest, C Coy., beat Private Wilkinson, A Coy.
Private Banks, B Coy., beat Private Coatsworth, B Coy.

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FINAL.

Private Banks, B Coy., beat Private Forrest, C Coy.

Private Banks was one of the lightest men in the Competition and won mainly by his excellent condition and by continuing to force the fighting throughout. Private Coatsworth would do better if he led more.

LIGHTWEIGHTS.

1ST ROUND.

Private Vines, B Coy., beat Private Maddison, F Coy.

2ND ROUND.

Private Forster, G Coy., beat Private Scott, F Coy.
Private Ormiston, G Coy., beat Private Saunders, E Coy.
Private Green, F Coy., beat Private Miller, D Coy.
Private Vines, B Coy., beat Private Morgan, C Coy.

SEMI-FINALS.

Private Vines, B Coy., beat Private Forster, G Coy.
Private Ormiston, G Coy., beat Private Green, F Coy.

FINAL.

Private Vines, B Coy., beat Private Ormiston, G Coy.

Private Vines won chiefly by the use of the straight left.

MIDDLEWEIGHTS.

1ST ROUND.

Private Henderson, F Coy., beat Private Sandilands, H Coy.
Private King, D Coy., beat Private Potter (2274), F Coy.

SEMI-FINALS.

Private Henderson, F Coy., beat Private Clive, B Coy. (scratched).
Private Hyde, H Coy., beat Private King, D Coy.

FINAL.

Private Hyde, H Coy., beat Private Henderson, F Coy.

Private Hyde who is a lightweight won this pretty easily. Private Sandilands did not appear to exert himself till the last half minute of his fight, otherwise the decision might have been different.

Referee—Captain Gatehouse.
Judges—Lieutenant Selby
2nd-Lieutenant Baxter (on 1st night).
„ Vachell (on 2nd night).
M.C.—Sergeant-Major Wooll.
Timekeeper—Colour-Sergeant Price.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

I very much regret that I omitted to announce the result of the final match in our last Billiard Handicap, which was won by our Bandmaster, Mr. Moss, who defeated Colour-Sergeant Myers by thirty points.

We have started Whist Drives again and a very pleasant one was held on the night of the 20th inst. Mrs. Smith (Garrison School Mistress) secured the first prize for ladies and Mrs. Luke the second. Colour-Sergeant Smith (bachelor) won the members' first and Sergeant-Drummer Hone and Sergeant Fenemore tied for the second, the draw resulting in favour of the former.

"Swank" has returned from furlough to England and we are fully aware of it. We also know all about the Coronation and the 2nd Battalion and the Palladium and the theatres and the latest songs and large whiskies-and-sodas and big heads in the morning and all that life is worth living for, and we are only waiting to get a word in edgeways to ask him how he is.

That women will talk we're all aware,
Unless their tongues you sever;
Yet e'en *they* at night our ears will spare,
But "Swank" flows on for ever.

The new Regimental Call—M(e) how

A certain single sergeant, stout and staid,
Desires to meet a millionairess maid
(Or widow—'tis immaterial which,
Provided only she be fairly rich),
With view to marriage when his time is in,
(For then he greatly dreads becoming thin).
Youth, grace and beauty not essential,
Would (with "figures") be preferential.
One with a home already, much preferred—
'T would save the cost, which else must be incurred,
'F furniture from Maple, or from Waring,
(Firms us'd to charging, but not cheese-paring);
A few equipages, a car or two,
(And p'raps a yacht) would very nicely do;
Also—that nothing may be unforeseen—
He's very partial to a good cuisine.
These are the chief essentials on his list,
(The minor ones, through want of space, I've missed);
Yet stay! just one other I must mention,
A plump allowance t' augment his pension.

If this should meet the eye of some fair dame,
Or damosel with mind to change her name,
Bless'd by fortune with the proud position
T' satisfy each separate condition—
Then might, perhaps, a meeting be arrang'd,
And satisfact'ry ref'rences exchanged.
And lest, dear maid or ma'am, thy thoughts be such
Thou deem'st our comrade's asking rather much
And offers little, let such thoughts be cast—
The settlement he'll make on thee is vast.
Yes, in exchange for thy small hand alone,
He will endow thee with his *sixteen stone.*

2nd Battalion Notes.

HILLSBOROUGH BARRACKS, SHEFFIELD,
22nd February, 1912.

ON Thursday the 25th ult. we played the Army Service Corps, Eastern Command, in the third round of the Army Cup. The match was played on the Niagara ground and we were beaten by two goals to love after a good game. Several Army Service Corps officers came up from Woolwich to cheer their side to victory and we were glad to see Captains Warwick and Hart and Lieutenants Trench and Rushbrooke from Pontefract. A fuller account of the match will be found in another column.

We were glad to see Major Shoubridge on his way up to Fleetwood at the beginning of the month, Lieutenant Gibson when he brought a draft down from the Depôt on the 7th inst., and Lieutenant Fletcher at the Mobilization Test on the 20th inst. Congratulations to the latter on qualifying as 1st class interpreter in Housa.

A draft of 17 men and a corporal left Sheffield on the 26th ult. for India.

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Most of those who were on leave returned on the 14th inst. We hear that one of them made a gallant attempt to break the bank at Monte Carlo.

Company Training is now in full swing. In addition to the area which we had last year, Hillsborough Park is now available on two mornings each week. It is a change from climbing about among the gannister pits but its usefulness is somewhat marred by the swarms of children who seem to think that we come there solely to provide them with amusement and with an excuse for making a noise.

The severe frost at the beginning of the month considerably interfered with hunting but we were slightly compensated by a glimpse which we got of the sun and by the extension of our horizon from its usual radius of about 400 yards to one of nearly two or three miles. There was some skating on the pond where last year the Companies practised bridging and boat building.

Since the breaking up of the frost hunting has again been going strong. Lieutenant-Colonel Enderby, Major Turner, Lieutenant Leverson, and 2nd-Lieutenants Brownlow, Molineux and Barkworth have been going out with the Grove and the Wentworth, and Lieutenant-Colonel Enderby had a good run with the Barlow on the 16th. On the same date 2nd-Lieutenant Molineux had an excellent day with the Grove in their best country. On the 17th the Grove had a fast woodland hunt of about 45 minutes. On the whole sport has not been quite as good as last month chiefly, of course, owing to the frost which, even before it definitely set in, upset our arrangements on more than one occasion.

Lieutenant Foster attended a Course of Instruction in the Marindin Range Finder, at Hythe, and is going there again for a Refresher Course in the Machine Gun. Lieutenant Rushbrooke will also be going to Hythe for a course preparatory to taking over the duties of Machine Gun officer in the Battalion.

No. 3016 Private C. Cox transferred to the 1st Royal Dragoons on the 1st inst.

No. 9785 Lance-Sergeant R. Poole, G Company, and No. 9687 Lance-Sergeant R. Trenam, E Company, qualified in the Marindin Rangetaking Course at Hythe on the 9th inst.

No. 6935 Private C. Drummond, C Company, and No. 8004 Private J. Reynolds, F Company, were appointed Bandsmen from the 14th inst.

No. 7155 Lance-Corporal T. Bird, F Company, was on the 23rd ult. permitted to re-engage to complete 21 years' service.

Certificates of Education have been awarded as under:—

2nd Class:

(dated 31st January, 1912)

No. 2786	L.-Cpl.	W. Christie	No. 3172	Private	J. Denard
„ 2850	„	W. Burr	„ 3171	„	C. Bennett
„ 3098	Private	W. Holmes	„ 3137	„	A. Stokes
„ 3250	„	J. Hermens	„ 3132	„	H. Walker
„ 2295	„	F. Naylor	„ 3185	„	F. Barham

No. 3252 Boy J. Churchill

3rd Class:

(dated 31st January, 1912)

No. 3254	Private	J. Oates	No. 3091	Private	J. Christie
„ 3282	„	W. J. Beale	„ 3249	„	J. Amos
„ 3202	„	R. Anderson	„ 3284	„	C. Gregory

No. 3180 Private R. Munroe

(dated 5th February, 1912)

No. 3213	Pte.	W. Northgreaves	No. 3235	Pte.	G. Whittam
„ 3276	„	J. Mirchell	„ 3278	„	W. King

The following recruits have enlisted during the month:—

No. 3342	Pte.	H. Thorn	No. 3330	Pte.	M. Burns
„ 3341	„	A. Hemingway	„ 3340	„	E. Monahan
„ 3346	„	G. Ketteridge	„ 3343	„	W. Lewis
„ 3344	„	W. Gillott	„ 3347	„	H. McDonald
„ 3332	„	G. Measher	„ 3345	„	J. Wellgreen

No. 3331 Private W. Gudgeon

FOOTBALL.

The following matches took place during the month:—

January 13th—v. Woodhouse, in the Hatchard Cup League. Won 6—0. The forwards played a good game in this match, and we had things very much our own way.

January 21st—v. Cammel Laird. Lost 2—1. This team was too good for us, scoring their winning goal in the last minute of play.

February 10th—v. Hallam. Won 4—2. A good game, Brown (inside right) scoring all four goals. Mudd and Palmer also played a very good game.

February 17th—v. Retford Town. Draw 0—0. We were lucky to draw this match which was played on our ground. Retford have not yet lost a match this season.

Minor League.

January 27th—v. Chapeltown Swifts. A draw 1—1.

February 3rd—v. Warren United. This proved an easy victory for us, 9—1.

February 10th—v. Thorpe Hisley. Won 3—0.

February 17th—v. Potter Hill. Draw 2—2. A good game, in which we were lucky to gain a point.

On the 25th ult. we met the Army Service Corps, Eastern Command, in the 3rd round of the Army Cup, on Niagara Ground, Sheffield. The match had already been postponed owing to bad weather, and play took place on a ground which had only just been cleared of snow. The Army Service Corps brought up a strong team, and were strong favourites. In the first half we had things very much our own way, and but for the very indifferent shooting of our forwards, should have scored several goals. About ten minutes after half-time the Army Service Corps who had been pressing for some time scored the first goal of the

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match, and a second shortly afterwards. Our team were playing much below their usual form, the result being a win for the Army Service Corps by 2—0.

2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes.

THE BARRACKS, PONTEFRACT,
20th February, 1912.

FEBRUARY has been rather a dull month here, as we were in the grip of snow and frost for about a fortnight. We had several quite good days skating on the lakes in Pontefract Park and Stapleton Park which are both fairly close to Barracks.

This year we started our Company Training on the 14th February, which is a fortnight earlier than usual, and B and D Companies are hard at work now making daily journeys to Stapleton Park, which is our chief training area.

The frost, of course stopped hunting for a considerable time, though since its disappearance we have had some quite good sport, notably one very good day from Askern, where we had an excellent gallop, though the going is, of course, still very deep.

Lieutenant Holderness has rejoined this Detachment from Fleetwood, where he was commanding A Company during January till relieved by Major Shoubridge.

We were very glad to have had a flying visit this month from Major Moulton-Barrett, who came down here to attend a Conference of Officers Commanding Depôts.

The Detachment Football League was brought to a finish on the 1st February by the victory of B Company over H Company by 4 goals to 1. B Company thus repeated their performance of last year and secured first place. The result of the League is as follows:—

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Goals For	Goals Against	Points
B Company ...	8	6	2	0	34	11	12
H „ ...	8	5	1	2	15	9	12
D „ ...	8	2	5	1	15	24	5
Attached Men...	6	2	4	0	13	16	4
Drums... ...	6	0	3	3	7	24	3

We have had some exciting matches in the Hockey League especially one on the 16th February between D and H Companies. The score was two all to within a few minutes of time when D Company managed to snatch the odd goal. The result of the League Competition was that B Company came out first, thus winning both the Football and Hockey Leagues. The result of the League is as follows:—

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Goals For	Goals Against	Points
B Company ...	6	5	1	0	19	6	10
D „ ...	6	4	2	0	10	7	8
Drums... ...	6	3	3	0	10	15	6
H Company ...	6	0	6	0	7	18	0

Depôt Notes.

THE BARRACKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
23rd February, 1912.

THE past month has been remarkable chiefly on account of the vileness of the weather. About the beginning of the month we had a week's skating. It was not, however, good owing to the large amount of snow which fell and the lack of enterprise shewn in getting it swept. The result was rough ice; but in spite of this it was much appreciated by many officers at the Depôt. About this time the hunting contingent became somewhat depressed and difficulty was found in getting them to face the elements and trying another means of progression.

A universal coal strike seems unavoidable and we expect to be caught for that most unpleasant duty "in aid of the civil power."

We were pleased at receiving a short visit from Captain Blair Imrie ("Rummy") whom few of us have seen since Wynberg days when he was on General Settle's staff.

Our heartiest congratulations to Colonel Riddell on his engagement to be married.

Owing first of all to the furlough season and afterwards to the weather football was not re-commenced till a week ago.

The undermentioned have been awarded Certificates of Education as stated, dated Newcastle-on-Tyne, 5th February, 1912:—

2nd Class:—

No. 3278 Private W. King

3rd Class:—

No. 2853 Pte. H. Povey	No. 3213 Pte. W. Northgreaves
„ 3235 „ G. Whittam	„ 3289 „ W. Hutchinson
„ 3276 „ J. Mitchell	„ 3277 „ G. Stewart
„ 3291 „ H. Whitton	„ 3294 „ M. Watt
„ 3297 „ J. McGeorge	„ 8043 „ G. Coser
„ 8053 „ R. Harlow	„ 8060 „ T. Brown
„ 8061 „ H. Partridge	„ 8062 „ H. Irwin
„ 8075 „ A. Burnside	„ 5302 „ C. Woodrow

A Draft of 23 Recruits was posted to the 2nd Battalion on the 7th inst.

Sergeant-Major H. M. Belchem, 3rd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, proceeded to Hythe to attend a course at the School of Musketry on the 26th ult.

4th Battalion Notes.

HEXHAM,
20th February, 1912.

THE *London Gazette* of the 13th inst. contained the notification of the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel J. Gibson, V.D., to command the Battalion. Our new Commanding Officer enrolled as a private in the 1st V.B.N.F. just thirty years ago and has since passed through all ranks. He is a member of a well known local

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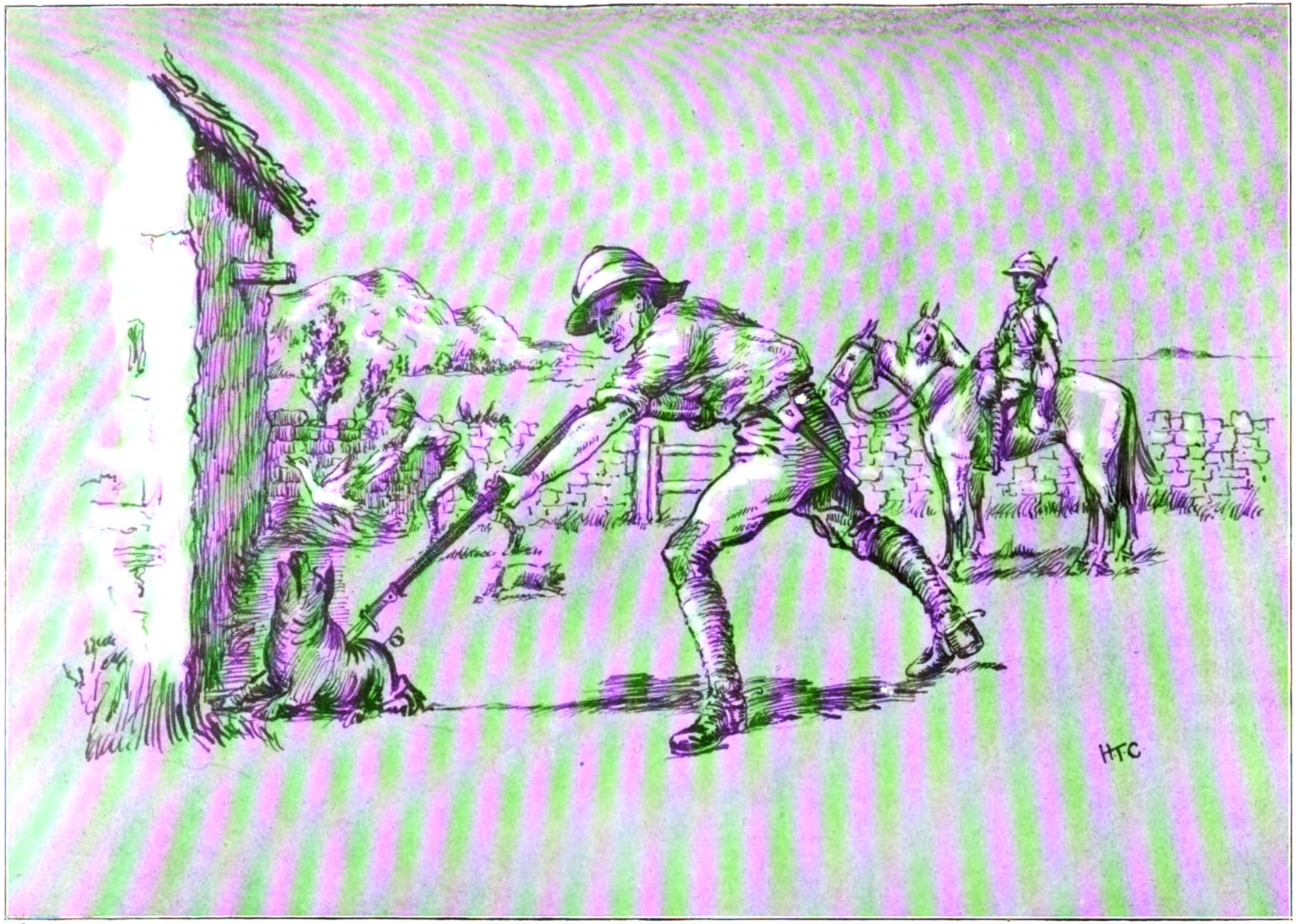

My 'ands are spotty with velt sores, my shirt is a button an' frill,
An' the things I've used my bay'nit for would make a tinker ill;
An' I don't know whose dam' column I'm in, nor where we're trekkin' nor why.
I've trekked from the Vaal to the Orange once—
From the Vaal to the greasy Pongolo once—
(Or else it was called the Zambesi once),
For now I am M.I.

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family which has had a long connection with the Volunteer and Territorial Forces.

We are pleased to congratulate our Corbridge Company on their record success in recruiting. Up to date twenty-four recruits have joined this year in that small village.

Colour-Sergeant-Instructor Stewart was, at a Smoking Concert at Newburn on the 27th ult., presented with a purse of gold by the members of the Company, and with a walking stick by civilian friends, who also presented Mrs. Stewart with an umbrella.

Colour-Sergeant-Instructor Fewster is attending a course of instruction in the mechanism of the Maxim Gun at Enfield Lock. Sergeant Richardson, Hexham, proceeds to Hythe for a Refresher Maxim Gun Course on the 23rd inst.

5th Battalion Notes.

WALKER-ON-TYNE,
20th February, 1912.

THE Wallsend Detachment was entertained to a Smoking Concert on the 1st inst. by the Mayor of Wallsend (Alderman M. W. Swinburne). The event was intended to commemorate the re-opening of the Hall, after enlargement, the accommodation now being double what it was formerly. The C.O., Colonel MacDonald presided, and he was supported by the Mayor of Wallsend, ex-Alderman T. S. Harrison, Captain Saltau-Symons (Adjutant), Captains D. Myles, H. Luhrs and B. Proud; Lieutenants Irwin, Armstrong, Tweedy, Lieutenant and Quartermaster Holloway.

Colonel Macdonald during the course of his remarks, said that the Hall was an acquisition to the Detachment, and should be an inducement to young men to join the Territorial Force, the Wallsend Detachment was under strength, and that he was particularly anxious to bring it up to full establishment before the end of the present year; that it was rather a big task, but that he believed there was sufficient pluck in the Detachment to get the patriotic young men of Wallsend to do their duty. He would like to remind them that they were the guests that night of his Worship the Mayor of Wallsend; like all Mayors Mr. Swinburne was a very busy man, but he had intimated his desire to help them in their work, and had agreed to provide that smoking concert. This was the first occasion on which the Mayor of a town, in an official capacity had provided such an entertainment for the local detachment, and as Commanding Officer be wished to thank him.

On the motion of Captain Myles a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Mayor. The Mayor, in reply, thanked them for their vote, and expressed the opinion that it was the duty of every corporation to encourage such an organization as the Territorials. His object in entertaining them was to assure them that they had his sympathy in their work, he quite understood they had to make sacrifices, and practice self denial in setting an example to others in their efforts to build up the Force. He hoped the young able-bodied men would take their part and look upon the Territorial Force as a higher education in the training of the mental, moral and physical faculties for the duties of life.

"Bravo, Wallsend!" It has been left to the Mayor of our junior borough to set the example to older and larger boroughs and District Councils in this part of the country.

I have noticed that deputations who visit us to inspect our latest method of "spending money" are entertained and have a pleasant time, but the Territorials—those actually belonging to us, giving up their time to be trained, so that they can protect our towns and the property of the Mayors and Corporations—are forgotten.

If the local authorities would only show a little interest in us, help us to get the men, and when we get them to keep them, the talk of compulsory service would drop.

I hope the excellent lead of Alderman Swinburne will be followed by others.

The Headquarters Companies held a most successful Men's Dance at Walker, on Saturday, 17th inst.

The Gosforth Detachment also held a highly successful Dance on the same night at Seaton Burn, over sixty couples being present.

Recruits are coming in well at Headquarters and also at Gosforth and Wallsend.

We congratulate Major Myles on his promotion.

6th Battalion Notes.

ST. GEORGE'S DRILL HALL,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
26th February, 1912.

RECRUITING is in full swing. Prizes to the value of one shilling for each approved recruit are to be given to any non-commissioned officer or man obtaining recruits for the Battalion.

Camp is to be at Scarborough this year, a place we imagine to be slightly more exciting than Haltwhistle.

Earl Grey, our Honorary Colonel, presented our prizes on the 25th ult., and made a most inspiriting speech, also

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touching upon the military enthusiasm in our colonies, more especially in Canada, on which country, of course, he is an authority.

Captain R. Athill was married last week to Miss Drummond, daughter of Dr. David Drummond, and he has the very best wishes of the Regiment for his future happiness.

Lieutenants O. G. Blayney and G. T. Parkinson have passed their examinations qualifying them for "B." Captain G. E. Hunter has passed (d) iii, and has yet to pass (d): for letter "Q."

The lease of the Whitley Range has expired, and no intimation having come to hand as to any change of attitude on the part of the authorities, we find ourselves with no range near Newcastle for our shooting. It is reported that a new range will be built at Ponteland with forty targets. May we hope that the scheme will be for an échelon range.

Editorial Notes.

6, Washington House,
Basil Street, London, S.W.,
February, 1912.

WE offer our heartiest congratulations to Colonel Riddell on his engagement and wish him the best of luck and happiness.

Mr. James Coody, fulfilling a promise, has sent us a cutting from the *Woolwich Herald*, in which is the announcement of his having received the Coronation Medal. Another old FIFTH man, Lance-Sergeant Dennis McCarthy, late of the Band, has also received this Medal. Both these fine old veterans belong to the National Reserve, while Mr. Coody in addition is the Honorary-Colonel of the Woolwich Old Boys' Brigade. We wish these gallant old soldiers the best of health and prosperity.

The number of Bound Volumes for 1911 which have been ordered up to date of writing is very considerably less than in previous years and we shall be very glad to receive further orders. A certain number of copies are set aside each month for binding at the end of the year, and these copies, unless used for the purpose for which they are intended, are wasted. The average number of Bound Volumes disposed of during the last five years is 111. This year only some sixty have been sold.

There are, also, in the hands of the printers a number of copies of the History of the 2nd Battalion, issued as a Supplement with various numbers of the *Gazette* from and including April, 1898, to April, 1911. There are about 116 pages and the price will be 1/6 unbound, 4/- bound, post free.

Mr. R. H. Ball, late Master-Shoemaker of the Regiment, also sends us a cutting from the *Norwich Mercury* containing an account of the Annual Dinner to the Old Soldiers and Sailors of Norfolk, which was attended by 189 veterans, among whom were Messrs. Thomas Kevell (Sergeant), and E. Webster (Private), late 5th Fusiliers, and Mr. Ball himself, who acknowledged the toast of "The Veterans" on behalf of the ex-soldiers present. Captain Atthill, M.V.O., who sends us a balance sheet of the Royal Norfolk Veterans' Association, in which we notice the name of Major F. A. Cubitt, late 5th Fusiliers, as a subscriber, instituted the Annual Dinner in 1894.

Letters to the Editor.

8, HIGHAM PLACE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
15th January, 1912.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—I have received the following letter from an ex-FIFTH man, which I daresay will interest some readers of the *St. George's Gazette*.

Yours truly,
JAS. THOMSON, Major,
Secretary, Northumberland Fusiliers Aid Society.

Please address any letter to W. Zepler, G.P.O., to be called for.

"MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA,
"14th December, 1911.

"MAJOR THOMSON,
"8, HIGHAM PLACE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
"ENGLAND.

"DEAR SIR,—You will be interested to know that my wife and I landed here last Sunday evening, December 3rd. They call anyone coming into this country 'new chums,' and we had not got far into the city before we were accosted by several people with the brief introduction of 'new chums' and then they proceeded to tell us what a fine country we had come into and generally welcome us. Unfortunately for us there was difficulty in getting a bed in the hotels or cafés that were open, it being Sunday. I happened to ask a gentleman whether he could direct me to somewhere where I could put up the night and he at once said if we would go home with him we could have his front bedroom for the night and be quite welcome and he would not accept anything for it. In the morning he assured us if we would stay we should be quite welcome to stay there a week, fortnight, or month without paying him anything. However, not wishing to trespass on good nature we secured fresh apartments. I am writing of this incident as I think it a real sample of Australian hospitality. This same man was a master bricklayer and he wanted several bricklayers who he was willing to pay 15/- a day, and he said if there was such a thing as not finding work at my own trade he could find me some kind of job himself.

"We are very greatly impressed with this really fine city and we think we shall like the country very much. I am glad to be able to say I have been engaged to start to-morrow at piecework at a watchmakers in one of the chief streets in the city. If I have plenty of work to do I shall do well, but of course I shall only be paid by my employer for what work I actually do. The minimum wage that can be paid to a watchmaker in this country is £3 10s. 0d., so I have found employers rather dubious of starting a man whom they know nothing about on a minimum salary of £3 10s. 0d. Of the condition of labour generally, of course it is early to speak with any authority, but that there is a real demand for anyone in the building trade cannot be denied. Bricklayers, carpenters, joiners, etc., can get from 12s. to 15s. a day, and anyone if he is willing to go on a farm, even if he understands absolutely nothing, can get a job to live in, everything found and 15s. a week, or if a married couple, and wife is willing to cook or do general domestic work and husband make himself useful would get live in and every-

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thing found and £78 or £100 per annum according to whether experienced or not; also there is a good demand for hotel servants, male and female, and female domestics of all kinds, so much so that a married couple coming out here, the wife, if she were willing to work, could always be sure of earning 15s. to £1 a week.

"The best way to get anyone out from England is instead of paying the full fare of £16, to get someone out here, a resident of Victoria, to nominate anyone for a passage by paying in this country £4 and the nominee must undertake to pay another £8, £4 of which is refunded by the Government when the nominee has been resident out here for, I think, three months; so that actually a man can get a passage for £8 instead of £16, but of course all the particulars can be got from the Agent-General for Victoria in London. I shall be writing again in about three or four weeks' time and then perhaps I shall know more of the country. Of course, house rent is dear out here, but meat is much cheaper than at home and groceries and bread about the same as England. Clothing is, of course, a little dearer, but not so dear as I imagined. Lots of tailors advertise suits of clothes to measure at 30s., 35s. and 42s., and I have been surprised at *American imported* alarms being sold out here at 3s. 9d., and the same alarm is generally sold in England at 4s. 6d. I hope when I write my next letter my favourable impression of this country may still remain. The fact that there is practically no such thing as unemployment and there being an eights' hour day and minimum wages fixed really speaks for itself that the conditions of labour are better than at home. I will now close this letter which I am afraid cannot be of much interest to you.

"And remain, yours obediently,

"WALTER ZEPLER."

8, HIGHAM PLACE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
20th February, 1912.

DEAR SIR,—The Executive Committee Northumberland Fusiliers Aid Society beg to acknowledge with thanks the following subscriptions for 1912:—

	£	s.	d.
Hon. F. W. Lambton	1	0	0
Colonel F. Pollock	2	2	0
Captain Hon. N. Gathorne-Hardy	1	1	0
,, W. C. Wright	1	0	0
,, F. L. Festing	1	0	0
,, A. Duncombe-Shafto, D.S.O.	1	0	0
Colonel E. S. Heard	2	2	0
Lieutenant-Colonel W. S. Darley	2	2	0
,, G. Hart-Dyke	2	2	0
Captain F. Bevan	1	1	0
Lieutenant-Colonel M. W. Biddulph	5	0	0
Colonel Hon. C. Lambton, D.S.O.	5	5	0
Major J. W. Malet	1	1	0
Lieutenant-General Sir G. B. Milman, K.C.B.	5	0	0
Lieutenant Hon. J. C. W. S. Foljambe	1	1	0
Sir H. R. W. Miles	1	1	0
Lieutenant-Colonel G. N. Hargreave	2	2	0
Mrs. A. H. Harkness	1	1	0
Captain J. H. L. White	1	1	0
Lieutenant-Colonel A. E. Whitaker	5	0	0
Colonel F. Pocklington	5	0	0
,, T. Rowland, C.B.	1	1	0
Major F. W. Saunders	1	1	0
Lieutenant-Colonel G. A. Pagan	1	1	0
Colonel W. H. Sitwell, C.B., D.S.O.	2	2	0
,, J. F. Riddell	2	2	0
Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Robinson	1	1	0
Captain M. L. Sant	1	1	0
Colonel W. C. Master, C.B.	1	0	0
Major C. M. Wood	1	0	0
Colonel D. S. Stewart, C.B.	2	2	0
Lieutenant-Colonel C. G. Heathcote	1	0	0
Colonel C. H. L. James	2	2	0
,, E. W. Dashwood	1	1	0
,, T. G. L. Herbert-Armstrong	3	3	0
Mrs. Herbert-Armstrong	1	1	0
Major-General T. S. Bigge, C.B.	2	2	0
Total	£71	2	0

Yours truly,

JAS. THOMSON, Major,
Secretary.

6, WELLINGTON CRESCENT,
MANCHESTER, S.W.,
21st February, 1912.

DEAR SIR,—I found the other day that supplementary lists of recipients of the Military General Service Medal exist, in addition to the General List, which, for the 5th Fusiliers, was published in the *St. George's Gazette* of the 31st October last. I attach herewith extracts from the lists concerning the Regiment as you may care to add them to your records.

Yours sincerely,

D. A. HAILES.

5TH FOOT.

ADDITIONAL CLAIMS FOR THE MEDAL AND CLASPS ADMITTED.

Name.	Rank.	Roleia	Vimiera	Corunna	Talavera	Busaco	Fuentes d'Onor	Ciudad Rodrigo	Badajoz	Salamanca	Vittoria	Pyrenees	Nivelle	Nive	Orthes	Toulouse	Total clasps
From Colonial List.																	
Baker, James	Private	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1		4
Decks, John	Sergeant	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		11
Knox, William	Private	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	4
*Oatey, Richard	,,	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
From Kilmainham List.																	
Mallane, Joseph	Private	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
McDermott, Mark	,,	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	8
Supple, John	,,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	4

*Richard Oatey's name appears in the General List with 3 clasps.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY.

EXTRACTS FROM *ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE*, FEBRUARY 28TH, 1887.

DEWRY, 25th February. Our last sing-song, held at St. George's Theatre, on the 9th and 10th of this month, was a most enjoyable entertainment. Moreover it was a success from every point of view; indeed, we may almost say it was as successful as any previous performance of the kind, and this is no slight praise, as those who have been fortunate enough to witness similar entertainments, both here and elsewhere will readily testify . . . . . The entertainment was brought to a close by one of the best things we have ever seen on the stage, entitled the "Grecian Statues." Sergeant Reneville and Bandsman Lovett were the two with whom the credit of this really amusing scene rested. Their representation of the Duke of Wellington was very vivid. Sergeant Reneville must probably have thought so too when, on dismounting from his fiery steed, his forehead and the floor came into contact.

Punchestown this year is on the 29th and 30th March. The Prince of Wales is to be there and, doubtless, the gathering will be enormous. Though the Regiment this year will not have a tent, we trust to be there all the same.

A squad of non-commissioned officers and men have been undergoing a course of instruction in stretcher bearing and a very dismal show they make in the Barrack Square.

CARRICK FERGUS NOTES.—Fishing is now the sole amusement indulged in here and we are glad to be able to give a better account of it than last month. Hardly a day passes without someone bringing a string of really fine fish, and so fish suppers are the rule here. On one or two occasions over five stone of fish (codling), averaging one and a half pounds in weight each, were taken after three hours fishing. Such luck as this apparently prevents our fishermen from feeling the cold.

THE CHRISTMAS GYMKHANA.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT, SATURDAY, 25TH DECEMBER, 1886.

The Fusiliers put the finishing touch. They said "we will give a lunch" and they brought down a huge tent and a very big tiffin, and all sorts of things to drink from hock-cup which

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is soothing, to Benedictine, which, at two in the afternoon, is surprising. There were no printed cards to be had because the printing offices had struck work for Christmas Day; but everybody knew all about the races and, to make quite certain, they were chalked up on a big black-board. The most popular win was Captain Pilcher's in the jump race. He is popularly supposed to treat his ponies as others treat pet dogs—with the result that they will do nearly anything for him, down to letting him ride them without a bridle, by hand and voice alone. But it was a great gymkhana all the same; for the tiffin was as pleasant as the racing, and there were pretty dresses in the grand stand and nobody was "broke" and nobody was disgusted or sulky, as is the lamentable custom at some meetings. One of the most amazing things was the sight of civilians of twenty odd years standing, eating cold plum pudding in wedges. It was not a junior civilian but a subaltern, who watched them for five minutes and then said "They are going to give away some promotions as New Year presents, I wish I was in their service." But the subaltern was wrong.

WITH THE AMERICAN SECTION AT THE DELHI DURBAR.

IT was after an hour's iniquitous gin-crawling in neighbouring camps that I lost myself. Another half-hour found me completely bewildered, staring at the thousand and one lights that twinkled derision from every quarter. A figure loomed up in the darkness and I asked it the way back to camp.

"Why it's 'ere, sir," was the answer.

"What! The way?"

"No sir, the Mess Tent is just be'ind you, sir."

And so it was. I thanked him gratefully and made my way to the Mess. There I found the letter:—

"Dear Mr. Smith—My husband and I are out here for the Durbar with a party of friends. We are staying at the Cecil, and its just too cosy there for words. We should be so glad if you could find time to come along and dine with us. We know your cousin Cyril Duncombe very well indeed, for we have a house in Florence close to his. Cyril asked us to look you up should you be in our vicinity. Can you come next Saturday night? We dine at eight.

Yours sincerely,

NELLIE A. CORTLANDT."

Nellie Cortlandt. The richest woman in San Francisco. Rather——and I went.

I arrived somewhat late and found them waiting in the drawing room. She was delightful and waived away my apologies.

"Why no. Of course you ain't late, besides you've such a long way to come. Now — come right along and I'll fix you with the rest of the party; but you're taking me in to dinner. Cyril told me that we should be great friends. Judge."

Judge Cortlandt come over to us with a smile and a warm outstretched hand. He was a massive man with a close-cut beard, well silvered. He had the large mobile mouth of the typical American, and a clear blue eye; his moustache was stained with nicotine and his atmosphere redolent of cigars. He might have been nearly sixty.

"Glad to meet you, sir. Heard a whole heap 'bout you from Cyril ——, great friend o' Nellie's. But I guess you must be hungry some. This is my boy —— Alexander. I'll just take you 'long and introduce you to Mr. and Mrs. Howard. He's a railroad king, and President of Stamford College, Cal. Standing for Senator of the same state next fall. What? Yes. He'll hit Congress sure 'nuff."

In five minutes we were in the dining-room, chattering, of course on the same old topic. Mrs. Howard, a small blonde, talked as I have heard no woman run out words before. She seemed to pass a great deal of excellent food into her mouth. I suppose that it all went somewhere—but it never stopped her flow of chatter.

"My! Ain't it just fine. Why—you know I went to the Garden Party the other day, and we went right inside and there—right there with Mr. Howard I set my eyes on the Diwan-i-Khas. 'Well,' I said, 'It's a world-beater, Mr. Howard.' 'Yaas,' he answered, 'I think it beats anything in Rome.' 'Rome,' I said, 'I think it beats *everything* in Amurrica.'"

In speechless admiration I watched her plant half a cutlet in her pretty mouth. She continued unconcerned.

"Yaas, and we were there for the Grand Entry. My! It was just fine. I could have kissed some of those lovely Rajahs, and their heavenly purls and jewels. And those dinky genarals in their pink coats and all their medals, they *must* be brave. How many medals have you got?"

I assured her that I had none, but that my conduct in the presence of danger was above suspicion.

"Well," she remarked frankly, "you're small, but you look brave. Where was I?—Oh, yaas——Grand Entry. Those soldiers standing in front for whole hours. I call them simply splendid, looking as though they were plum fixtures in God's earth, and not a solitary wriggle out of one of them. Some gurls say that the native troops looked lovely, I don't think they showed half so sweet as you white ones. Why—the boots of those black men were just paltry."

"Mrs. Howard's hit it," boomed her husband from across the table. "Those boots were the worst show proposition that I ever stuck my eyes on. They give a man a first-grade turban and a slap-up coat, their breeches ain't vurry great shakes,but the foot-fittings 'ud make a Texas dead-beat faint. Mind you the reg'lars were all there; the native bodyguards are my chouse, and you can bank on it, sir, that if Washington Howard could toot his little horn as a Rajah, well—his smoke would be worth watching. There are things in that decayed old fort which make me cry. Now take that mighty great wall with only an all-fired stone staircase to mount up by, and one of the most unelegant stairs I ever saw too. Why, hang it, if I was Viceroy I'd have an electric-elevator on every face of that fort. I grant you that the sights of this Durbar have been eye-busters. Yaas, I shall have something to tell to the old folks way back home; but I contend that you English are too fond of slow pomp and circumstance. You don't get a rustle on. When Mamie and I walked around the side shows of that Garden Party it took us near an hour-and-a-half to wade through the bunch with our guide books and kodaks. If that had been my little picnic I'd have had a miniature railway running through those gardens and a slap-bang little station at each novelty. You come in at the gate, show your card—and step right on board. Toot-toot—whiz, bang sir, and off you go, with a dragoman sittin' in the tender, back to the engine, shooting off his mouth as he passed along the news. Get out at your station, and inside the show you'd find a free information bureau, with pictures, post eards and souvenirs all fixed up." He gave the table a soft rap and looked round triumphantly; we applauded and invited his attention to his plate, the contents of which were quite cold.

Mrs. Cortlandt smiled at me.

"The President is typical," she whispered. She told me that both herself and the Judge had been living on the Continent for some time, and indeed preferred it to their native country. I found out that they had just arrived from their ranch in California, where the Judge ran a model fruit and stock farm.

"You know," she continued in her soft western tones, "We picked up with the Howards on the cars at Santa Fé. He'd been guarding railroad interests during the recent fracas in Mexico. Guess he's pretty rough, but nice—they both are. But isn't she enjoying it? Told me that wild horses couldn't keep her from this Durbar, and on the cars and boat coming over she lost several boxes, but it didn't stop her, she just kept on whispering 'Durbar—or bust.'"

"And you're enjoying it too?"

"Of course I am. Do I look humpy? Haven't I got a laugh all over my face, though there are some things which I do think might be improved a bit. Now there's the drinking-water."

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"Oh," I laughed, "what's wrong with that?"

"Well, you can't drink it, that's all the worry. My physician, way home, told me never to touch water in India if I wished to see Amurrica again. The consequence is, I have to bring my own stuff right away from home in tins—The Pure Sterilised Brine Water Company—and every tin is hermetically sealed and guaranteed free from any microbes. Why, I'm so afraid of 'em that I almost hate having a bath, and they're certainly bad enough as it is. My little tin tub is so small that I can hardly get in, but when I do, well—I feel just like a frawg. Don't you go and forget to have a chat with Alexander. I can watch him all day long, and I have to listen to him most of the night. He's so full of news that he's nearly dead for fear he shouldn't live to get it off his chest at home. I've never known a boy so capable of absorbing information as he is. No, he wasn't educated in England; I wished it, but the Judge sent him to West Point, and as soon as we're back again, he goes to Yale. At present he thinks that he is the cutest thing on earth. 'Smart Alec,' we call him, but it makes no impression. It never does at twenty." And she laughed. "But you are over that, aren't you?"

"Twelve months," I said solemnly, "a whole twelve months."

She rose, and the ladies left us to our coffee and cheroots. Alexander Cortlandt came round and sat down next to me. The two elder men were deep in the Canadian Reciprocity Bill, so Alexander took the boards.

"Say, are you foolin' round at these shows in pink, anyway?"

"Rather, and you may well call it fooling round, it's only redeeming feature is that one usually gets a very fair view of what is going on. Have you enjoyed it?"

"Oh beat it," he cried enthusiastically. "Just wait till I get back to the States and watch my splash. I've got it all down in my diary, and I've got some photos—sure things, by gum. The day of that Garden Party I was nearly left; but no, sir, not quite, not by a jug-full. When the King and Queen came out in their crowns and glory, little Willie-boy was a hundred yards away, and in the stampede that ensued he got sold. Howsomever I took a hitch on the old Kodak and hit the hurry-hurry trail. When I struck the crowd it was ten deep around their Imperial Highnesses; I put the photo-box around my neck, and with both arms and legs doin' the work God made 'em for, I went through the bunch. I said 'Forgive me; kindly pardon me, madam; and fifteen thousand apologies, sir." Well, I coincided mighty close to your King, in fact there wasn't hardly a fly between us, and it was just so that I pulled off the box, and then and there, three yards away I snapped the Regal outfit. Gee whiz. It was great—a sure-thing-bully-draw back home. Yes, sir, I reckon its unique."

I assured him that it was a piece of luck, and he promised to send me a copy. I attempted to draw him out over his life at West Point, but it was "no go," he could talk of one thing only—his latest experience.

"Trust I don't worry you any, shooting off my face like this? I've got to gass or bust. During dinner I was too hungry. No, sir, I never rob my stomach; keep your bread-pan well-stoked and it's a dead cinch that you'll be top-dog on a hard day's work. You must think I'm fixed plumb straight for the foolish house, but I ain't. When our outfit kicked off from home and punched the breeze for this locality, the old man—that's popper—he told me to freeze on to all the information and experience I could lay my paw to. He passed me a cheque book, and invited me not to spare the dollars—I haven't, an' my stylo-pen is red-hot most days. Played the goo-goo game on the liner some. Vurry pretty gurl—English—came on board at Marseilles and gave me the glad hand right off. Things were going slap-up, and popper was a sore, sick man for some days; said I was too young for the perambulator stakes. It was just jam, while I was teaching her how to smoke, when one night, like a muddle-headed greaser, I lit her cigarette with a sulphur match and never let on that it was an eight-day stinker. Whew! she did cough, blamed near blew her front teeth off. Yes, she's at the Cecil right now, but she don't hold much chat with yours truly. Hullo! the old man's pushing off. Guess we better shunt; drown your smoke and have a fresh one on the porch."

Outside we found Mrs. Howard about to have her future told by a native fortune teller, whose show was worth, perhaps, half-a-crown.

She came running towards us.

"Oh come," she cried, "come quick. I've corralled the cutest wizened monkey you ever saw, to tell my fortune." The native grinned, for he understood English perfectly.

"Just look at him," continued the lady in ecstacy. "That's what I came away from New York to see. The mystic East. He's got the most wonderful recommendations from all over India, including one from Lord Hardinge, so I'm having mine told too. Go on," she screamed at him, "go on."

The miserable wretch settled himself on his hunkers and began.

"The mem-sahib has come from veree long ways," he said, examining her hands. "I am poor man and cannot be always telling the truths, but I think that she is Amreekin lady." She literally screeched at him with delight.

"Mem-sahib is veree happy jus' now, for she has a good heart. Not liking to speak a bad word to poor man—always speaking the good words. This line says good head, this one good heart. A-ah ekdotinohkubbardar—monkeys call—one, two, three." This was reeled off apparently as an invocation to inspiration. "Lady will be living long life; not often have ills. Once is having seerious ills, but soon is getting better and no more fearing of death. When lady is going back to the Amreeka, will be coming great lady—maharani—but I do not think that much money is coming from this thing. I know lady is already having many lakhs. She is wishful for bachchas—childs—but is not coming yet. Perhaps may be coming, I think not," his voice dwindled into a sympathetic whine.

"Wrong," said the lady, "I'm a mother of four. My opinion of you is, that you are vurry small potatoes, though how you knew I wasn't English beats me. Well, what's your price?"

"You are kind lady and I am poor man."

"That's so, or you wouldn't be doing the horoscope stunt. What is your fee anyway?"

"Ah, mem-sahib, sometimes asking price is sixty rupees and peoples is saying that is too much, and so I am taking thirty rupees," he grinned deprecatingly.

So the end of the matter was that he told all their fortunes for nearly a hundred rupees, and Alexander got cross because his fortune wasn't the best. The last I saw of our friend was a glimpse of him, buksheeshing the khitmatgar who had provided the details.

As soon as he had gone the ladies wished us good-night.

"To-morrow we must be up at eight sharp," said Mrs. Cortlandt. "And there is a four mile drive to the stands; the Review, you know. Shall you be there?"

"Yes," I gasped, "I shall be there; also I'm getting up at five and am not likely to get back to camp much before three. As it happens I'm standing most of the time too."

"Well, that's too bad, you'll be vurry fatigued; still it must be fine to march in a Review. To-morrow as you go by I shall be there with my eyes popping out of my head and cheering like mad. Now don't you to forget to walk right into Honey Gulch, Santa Clara Valley, California, if ever you come over. Good-night."

I made an attempt to clear away, but Mr. Howard laid a bejewelled fist on my arm.

"No, sir, I want to see you pouch a Rye and Perrier before you hunch. I've ordered it. Aha here it is; moisten up your gums, lap it down. That's fine," he beamed expansively. "It has been all hunky seein' one o' you young British officers; and when you hit Amurrica, pass the word to Washington Howard, and we'll do a sight-seeing stunt that'll make you want to see an oculist before you're through. I banker to meet that King of yours. Guess his head is screwed on the right way. Graduated in the Navy, didn't he? What! you're off?"

"Good-bye, Judge; it's been delightful of Mrs. Cortlandt and yourself——"

"Stopper it up," he said genially, "and likewise don't you disremember Honey Gulch if ever you strike the Golden West—God's Country. How are you movin' home? What? in one of those paltry little one-horse buggies, with a guarantee

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to fade away. *No, sir!* Alec, you go an' get out your buzz-box and see Mr. Smith home, right now."

We shook hands all round, and amidst a chorus of farewells glided off into the night. And so—as Mr. Pepys hath it—to bed.

"THE SPROUTER."

A TRIP TO KASHMIR.

(*Continued from page 17*).

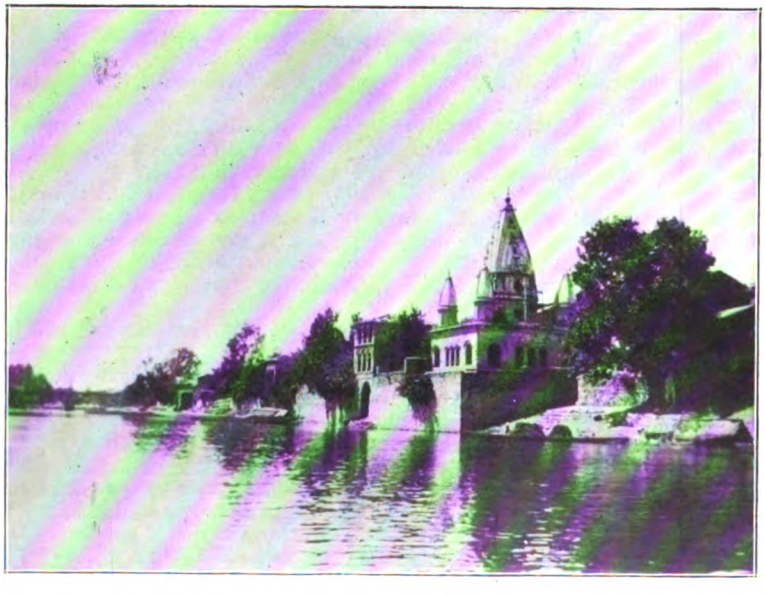
Our party having been badly beaten at cricket and shooting, we next challenged the Volunteers to a Field Day. This challenge was accepted and to show their appreciation of this new departure in sport, they decided to use the position, hitherto reserved exclusively for General Inspection.

This position runs at right angles to a high range of hills, and with an unselfishness we had not given them credit for, they decided to allow us to attack them. The ground in front was unsuited for any attack by infantry, so it was decided to climb over the hills and take them in the flank; this was successfully accomplished, and in spite of many protests, Captain McKenzie, V.C., awarded us the victory.

As both armies marched home the conversation was not of the Field Day we had just finished, but was more concerned about the number of parades the captain would mark them up for, as Volunteers can give their Regular brethren a start and a beating in their dislike for parades.

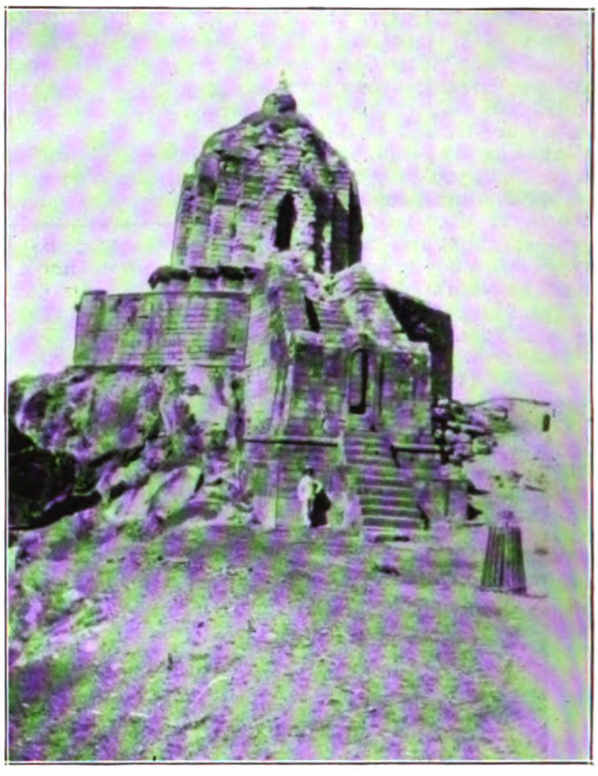
It was during the progress of the first cricket match that one of the forest officers enquired if we were going any further than Srinagar; on being told that we were undecided as to our future movements, he offered to lend us the use of all the forest bungalows, which would take us well within reach of Gilgit. This offer was accepted on behalf of the party, but at the council of war which followed, it was found that our mobility was seriously hampered owing to a slump in the money market, indeed I doubt whether we could have accepted the offer at any time during our stay in Kashmir.

The British soldier whatever virtues he may possess cannot lay claim to that of thrift, nor will he go down to fame as an individual gifted with seeing into the future.



JHELUM RIVER, SRINAGAR.
(*From a photograph by Quartermaster-Sergeant Lendon*).

If he receives all his pay on the 1st of the month, the chances are he will live at the rate of a major's, the consequence being bankruptcy not later than the 3rd.



TEMPLE ON THE TAKHT I SULEIMAN, SRINAGAR.
(*From a photograph by Quartermaster-Sergeant Lendon*).

This is exactly what happened to the majority of our party, and the Post Office officials were kept up to date answering questions bearing on the arrival of our next month's pay.

The natives serving on our houseboat quickly realized the state of affairs, and their respect and willingness to do their ordinary duties fell accordingly, the worst in this respect being the old man who owned the boat and his wife. Every morning the old man and his better half would sit on the bank and stare into our boat like a pair of huge vultures waiting for their prey, and whenever we attempted to move them, each in their different way would treat us to a solo and a self-torture turn. The old man would beat his face and tear at his breast, while his good dame would keep time with a wail, which would not have disgraced a lonely dog at night, so dismal did it sound.

As none of our party owed a single cent to any of them, we decided to put a stop to this, and an interview with Captain Chutta Singh was eminently satisfactory, for after half-an-hour's jabbering and crying, all our servants were willing to grovel at our feet.

No one who knows the soldiers will be surprised to learn that there was a certain amount of barrack damages aboard the houseboat, and for the sake of more room, all chairs broken were thrown out on the bank. This rough and ready manner of disposing of breakages, no doubt robbed us of some of our dignity, for this pile was noticed by our guide and mentor Major Gardener, who enquired "with a fine touch of sarcasm" if some war of which he had not heard had taken place.

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Many will require the proverbial grain of salt when they hear of the soldier displaying a willingness to go to Church, but such was the case. Certainly an argument more forcible than polite, used to take place previous to going to Church, as to whether red or white should be worn, but nevertheless we would be there as strong as possible, and the population were loud in their praise of the help rendered to the musical part of the service.

On the second Sunday some of our party, as they were going to Church, met Sir James and Lady Willcocks, who demanded the reason of their presence in Kashmir. On being informed that the General Officer Commanding Northern Army had signed our furlough, he smiled, and replied he knew nothing about it, but had himself accounted for our presence as telegraphists employed in Srinagar.

Our last week at Srinagar was taken up with cricket, field days, and Company drill; on these occasions our men were mixed with the Volunteers, and the work was equally divided and proved most interesting. The Captain Commanding the Company took unto himself the usual amount of orderlies, who also acted as scouts. The scouting was done well and quickly, but "alas for discipline" on the receipt of any information the reply, on occasions, used to be "Well done, Nobby."

On the last day of our stay in Srinagar, we had the task of handing over the houseboat, and this trying experience deserves a chapter to itself.

The proceedings were opened in the following manner:—The old man and his wife, followed by his blood relations, and servitors "reinforced for the occasion," marched slowly from the cook-boat up on to the bank, made a complete circle around the broken chairs and all sat down; then followed a weeping and wailing which reminded one forcibly of Con the Shaughraun, indeed a few lighted candles would have made the onlookers fancy a family bereavement had taken place. This little by-play had a bad moral effect on our party, and as a result the original allowance we were prepared to pay for barrack damages rose at least 20 per cent.

Our crew, still headed by the old couple, now came on the house-boat, but before any business could be transacted, all except blood relations were thrown off the boat, and the handing over began in real earnest.

Our enemy ——, for such we had come to regard him, now pulled out a sheet of foolscap, and invited the writer to examine it, while the remainder of the party watched him anxiously, hoping against hope for an easy settlement. After a close scrutiny of the inventory, for such it proved to be, we enquired whether he was quite certain his boat could carry the amount marked on the paper as cargo, meaning this to be sarcastic, but the old man displayed a lamentable lack of humour. He now pulled out our own list of deficiencies and read them slowly over taking great care he understood everything about our losses, and the price of the same. This part of the proceedings took up a lot of time, for as each loss was driven home the old gentleman would howl and beat his breast, while his better half accompanied him with the usual music.

At the conclusion of our counter attack the scene became indescribable, the old man beating his breast, his wife howling, our party using language which will not appear in these notes.

Victory rested with the old man and his blood relations, who marched off the boat richer by Rs.15.

The remainder of the evening was spent in packing up. When this was finished most of our party went out in town to bid good-bye to their many friends; next morning all was ready by six o'clock to start on our homeward journey, the recital of which will conclude these notes.

(To be concluded).

FORTY YEARS' SERVICE WITH THE FIFTH FUSILIERS.

By Mr. L. WALLACE, late Bandmaster, 2nd Batt. 5th Fusiliers).

(Continued from page 19).

At our first celebration of St. George's Day at Portland a whole crowd from far and near came to view the Trooping of the Colours which passed off successfully. Afterwards the Colours were lodged in form with the usual ceremony. The officers and their guests then made their way to the Officers' Mess for luncheon, followed by some of the visitors from Weymouth and Portland, who were greatly interested in everything they saw and anxious they should miss nothing worth seeing. A few days later some of them were loud in their praises of St. George's Day and the splendid hospitality of the 5th Fusiliers, praises which were afterwards explained by the fact that some of those who had followed in the wake of the party to the Officers' Mess and seen the tables laid out invitingly and the arrangements made to entertain, had been quite unable to resist their feelings, and, though entirely uninvited, had done more than justice to the good things provided. At this time we heard the rumour of a proposed recruiting march through Northumberland, which presently became fact. About 200, including band and drums, with a proportion of officers under the command of Major Riddell were selected and everything possible that could be thought of to make the detachment a particularly smart one was done. About the middle of July, 1898, we found ourselves at the Newcastle Central, outside which a crowd such as I had never seen before had assembled to give their best welcome to the County Regiment. We, too, on our part had thought of giving them a good show as we marched to our destination, Newcastle Barracks, but that was a march which those who took part will never forget. I think the most surprised of all were the civil authorities who found all their arrangements nullified, roads crammed and traffic suspended. Eventually we managed to filter through this dense assembly "Little by little and bit by bit," as the song says. All the way to the barracks could be heard "Good Old Corps!"—"I did my bit in them"—"Finest Corps in the Service"—"Three Cheers for the Fighting Fifth," and so on. It really seemed that if it was only recruits that we wanted, we could gather in all Newcastle, and when we got to our quarters we were all pretty well tired. That evening I saw a lot of old soldiers, some still serving, with whom I had soldiered in the 1st Battalion, and I spent a pleasant hour or so assuring them that India was just the same as in the old days, and telling them of the old hands I had met out there. In my turn I heard news about old comrades who had settled down in civil life in England. Quartermaster-Sergeant Fisk, dear Old Ben, as we lovingly called him, looked after me and I was made very comfortable. His kind hospitality I shall never forget. The next day, Sunday, we made a brave show marching to and from St. Nicholas's Cathedral, where the service was a special one on our behalf. On the Monday we started on our tour, which, though it meant hard marching, had its compensations. Indeed, it was like an everlasting picnic, and the men had the time of their lives. Refreshments were plentiful, and the hot sun was almost a satisfaction as it enabled us the more willingly to quench our thirst with the best of good ale. The country, too, we marched through was beautiful and full of history. After reaching camp and making things ship-shape and comfortable, and a bit of a rest, the fall in sounded again and off the men marched to some entertainment where body and mind were catered for and where they were told what fine fellows they were and what a fine county Northumberland was. Such was the average daily routine. At Alnwick I met a lot of old comrades. First and foremost, there was Tom Woodage, Bandmaster of the 3rd Battalion, George Pickford, who was porter at the Castle and formerly Quartermaster-Sergeant in the 1st Battalion and several others. We had with us our tug-of-war team, a big strong lot, trained to a nicety—invincibles I should have called them; yet an untrained team of the 3rd Battalion beat them. Their Sergeant-Major, Rowsell, selected a team of strikers from Armstrong's works, men hard as steel themselves, though they knew nothing about pulling. They settled down to it like so many crabs, with arms bent and legs crooked and looked as if they could have gone on pulling till doomsday, but, when the word "Pull!" was given I felt sorry for them and told my friend Woodage that they stood no earthly chance. Our team nearly heaved them off their feet at the first pull and before they recovered half of them were over the line. Our men worked

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beautifully together and they could not have had a better coach than Sergeant Hutton, and yet, as I said before, the 3rd Battalion team defeated them, as I thought, easily. When I went over Messrs. Armstrong's works a couple of years later I learnt the meaning of "Striker" and as I saw them at work, I thought they were just the men to beat any team. In my opinion the 3rd Battalion was a fine stalwart body of men who drilled remarkably well. I couldn't help admiring their self control, when amid dense clouds of flies not a hand raised, and I know how these pests can torment. I had the pleasure of meeting the same Battalion a couple of years later at Portsmouth prior to their going to Malta. My old friend, George Pickford, shewed me over a considerable part of Alnwick Castle, and I was greatly impressed, especially with the dungeon which was fashioned like the inside of a cocoanut shell, all solid masonry, with no windows or ventilators. A hole at the top, wide enough to get a prisoner through, acted as a door. In odd contrast was the electric light installation. It reminded me of the hymn-book—"Ancient and Modern." I'll say no more about the march which was all fully recorded in *St. George's Gazette*. Just after returning, the Battalion went on manœuvres. On Sunday the 4th of September there was great rejoicing at the Verne, when the news came of the battle of Omdurman. At the manœuvres it was received with salvoes of artillery and general cheering, especially among the FIFTH who were thinking of their gallant 1st Battalion and the part they played in it. Directly afterwards it seemed as if we were destined for active service owing to the Fashoda incident, but that excitement soon fizzled to zero. Then passing events made us think of South African possibilities. Our next station was notified to be Portsmouth, and General Sir Baker Russell, who was in command of our district, came to Portland for the yearly inspection. Great care was taken to be prepared for his little surprises, such as trying water bottles to see if there was water in them. I remember it was said that he had a great command of language. While the band were playing an "Inspection Troop" he sent over word by the Regimental Orderly-Sergeant that we had a d——d good cornet player and when he came to inspect the band he had the cornet player, Sergeant Glenn, brought in front of him and repeated his praises. We were then formed up while he complimented us highly one and all on our smart turn out which was very gratifying coming from such a so-called tartar. "But," said he in conclusion, "You are coming under my immediate command at Portsmouth and if you don't alter your behaviour I'll make you smell hell!" Just then the conduct of the Battalion showed they were not all plaster saints.

(To be continued.)

1812 IN THE PENINSULA.

(*Continued from page 20.*)

FEBRUARY.

The work of the allied army did not end with the storming of Ciudad Rodrigo for the place had to be repaired and put in a proper state of defence, and, a more painful duty, several British deserters taken in the captured fortress had to be dealt with.

Some deserters had been killed in the storming of the breaches but others were taken in the town and courts-martial were assembled to dispense justice to these. Sir Harry Smith, then a Brigade-Major in the Light Division, tells us in his Autobiography that "eleven (deserters) knelt on one grave at Ituero,"[1] but the present writer has been unable to find any corroboration of this statement in other accounts. Certain it is that several deserters were shot by sentence of court-martial though Lord Wellington showed great leniency in dealing with these cases. Any man who could obtain a fair character from his Commanding Officer was pardoned but some six men who could not do so were shot.[2] What the motive of these men in deserting could have been is difficult to say. They must have known that the fortress would be taken but seemed to have preferred to be dry and under cover with the prospect of being shot when taken, rather than suffer the wet and cold of the trenches; while the fear of corporal punishment, which was then in force and to which some may have been liable may have been a contributary cause.[3]

A few days were sufficient for the re-organization of the troops after the outbreak which followed the storming. The task of filling in the besiegers' trenches and levelling their batteries, repairing the defences of the fortress, and refilling its magazines was taken in hand at once. Spanish promises of supplying the labour and the materials for this once more proved vain; the British soldiers supplied the one and the British reserve magazines the other, which called forth a bitter letter from Lord Wellington regarding Spanish enthusiasm, though he adds that he does not doubt the good will of the people but only the capacity of their leaders to arouse it.[4]

Meanwhile the troops not employed on these works remained quietly in their cantonments, repairing damages and receiving drafts which barely sufficed to replace the casualties of the siege. Supplies were still none too plentiful and in spite of the stringent orders against plundering not a few of the live stock of the inhabitants found their way, unwillingly, into the camp kettles. The hardships of the siege do not seem to have exercised any effect on the troops employed in it for the divisions which were not there sent most men to hospital.[5]

By January 25th such progress had been made with the repair works that the fortress was safe against a *coup-de-main* and the energy put into the work was not wasted for on January 28th the weather broke up completely and such a heavy rain set in that the trestle bridge could not stand and the river rose some two feet over the stone bridge of the town. Communication with the town was quite cut off, the allies were on the left bank, and for several days the town was left to its own resources in the way of defence.[6] The bad weather lasted for several days and the swollen rivers prevented all communication. As usual Lord Wellington's chief difficulties were with questions of transport. All his arguments had failed to persuade the Portuguese to furnish him with sufficient carts to enable supplies, clothing, etc., to reach the troops. As a consequence several regiments both British and Portuguese had to be sent to the station to which they were brought by the navigation of the river to get their clothing and equipments, there being no land transport to bring what was required to the troops.[7]

Nor was the situation improved by the desertion of the drivers of such transport as was available. Fresh drivers were procured but they, in turn, followed the example of their predecessors. But while he struggled with transport difficulties Lord Wellington never ceased his preparations for the next step in his plan of campaign, *i.e.*, an attempt on Badajos. Some 2000 men had been employed for weeks in the preparation of siege material and after the fall of Ciudad Rodrigo the battering train was despatched south towards Badajos. But the draft bullocks broke down half-way, and only a portion of the train could be moved on that line.[8]

The usual secrecy seems to have been maintained over the preparations against Badajos but even this secrecy was not proof against a "canteen" rumour which spread through the army and roused the ardour of the soldiers. They regarded Badajos as being unfriendly towards them and this and the recollection of two unsuccessful sieges filled them with enthusiasm at the prospect of squaring accounts with the inhabitants. By the end of this month the repairs and improvements to the works at Ciudad Rodrigo were well forward, the place was out of danger of being taken except by regular siege, and some of the British troops were on the march towards Badajos.

(To be continued.)

1 The autobiography of Sir Harry Smith.
2 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
3 Ibid.
4 Wellington's Despatches. Grenada, February 9th, 1812.
5 Ibid.
6 Napier.
7 Wellington's Despatches.
8 Napier.

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER FOR THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo fata vocant."

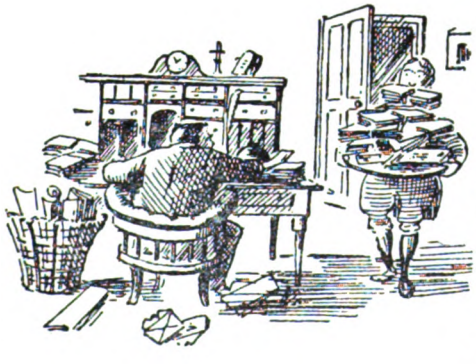
No. 351.] **Saturday, 30th March, 1912.** **[Vol. XXX.**

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
The Editor's Corner	35	Editorial Notes	40
Our Contemporaries	35	Letter to the Editor	41
Subscriptions Received	35	Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day	41
Marriage	35	"A Fox-Chase at Sea"	41
Extracts from *The London Gazette*	35	Socrates and the Grouser (Poetry)	42
1st Battalion Notes	36	A Drafty's Sensations (Poetry) ...	43
2nd Battalion Notes	36	Soldier Anecdotes	43
2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes	38	A Trip to Kashmir (*concluded*)	43
Depôt Notes	39	Forty Years' Service with the Fifth Fusiliers (*to be continued*)	44
4th Batalion Notes	39	1812 in the Peninsula (*to be continued*)	46
5th Battalion Notes...	40	Advertisements i. to viii. and Cover	
7th Battalion Notes...	40		

THE EDITOR'S CORNER.

6, WASHINGTON HOUSE, BASIL STREET,
LONDON, S.W.,
30th March, 1912.



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Subscriptions should be sent to the Editor; they will be duly notified in the next number of the paper after the remittances have been received.

Subscriptions are due in advance; in the event of a subscription not being paid when due, a bill will be sent (this, however, will not be done in the case of Officers serving with their Battalions, their subscriptions being paid by the Mess President yearly); should a subscription not be paid within two months in the case of a subscriber at home, or three months in the case of a subscriber abroad, after such bill is sent out, it will be assumed that no more copies of the paper are wanted. The name will then be taken off the books.

It is particularly requested that all contributions intended for insertion be sent so as to reach the Editor NOT LATER *than the 25th of each month, in order to allow of punctual publication, and that contributions be written on* ONE SIDE *only of the paper.*

Subscribers changing their addresses, Officers proceeding on leave, and Non-Commissioned Officers and Men proceeding on furlough, or leaving the Regiment, should send their addresses to the Editor.

All communications to be sent direct to the Editor.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following papers:—

"The Army Service Corps Journal"
"Military Mail"
"The Queen's Own Gazette"
"The Globe and Laurel"
"The Green Howards' Gazette"
"The Naval and Military Record"
"The XXX."
"The R.M.A. Magazine"
"The Aldershot News"
"The Antelope"
"The Tiger and the Rose"
"The Black Horse Gazette"
"The Hampshire Regimental Journal"
"The Eagle"
"The Lion and the Rose"
"The Snapper"
"The Regiment"
"The 79th News"
"The Essex Regiment Gazette"
"The Argyllshire Highlanders Regimental News"
"The London Scottish Gazette"
"The Household Brigade Magazine"
"H.L.I. Chronicle"
"The Sapper"
"The Journal of the Royal Artillery"
"The China Dragon"
"The XI. Hussar Journal"
"The 6th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers' Magazine"
"The Suffolk Regimental Gazette"
"The Green Tiger"
"The Acorn"
"The White Lancer"
"The Ranger"
"The Leinsters' Magazine"
"The Dragon"
"The Lillywhites Gazette"
"The Thin Red Line"

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions and payments for *Gazettes* from:—

Captain Temperley	to 31/12/12	Mr. Brookes... ...	... to 31/ 1/13
Lieut.-Colonel Creagh	,, 31/12/12	Mrs. Platt	... ,, 31/ 1/13
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Captain Jones ... ... (and Bound Volume)	,, 31/12/12	Depôt W. B. Holderness, Esq.	December *Gazettes* *Gazettes*
Mr. Barnard...	,, 31/ 1/13	Major Malet	*Gazettes*
Staff-Sergt. Richardson...	,, 31/ 1/13	P.R.I., 1st Batt.	December Sales

MARRIAGE.

BAILEY—MOORE.—On the 2nd inst., at the Parish Church, Bradwell, Mr. George Bailey to Celia Mildred, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Moore (late Colour-Sergeant, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers), of Bradwell, Suffolk.

EXTRACTS FROM *The London Gazette*:—

3RD BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Lord W. R. Percy to be Second-Lieutenant, on probation (dated 26th February, 1912).

4TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—R. B. Webster to be Second-Lieutenant (dated 12th February, 1912).

5TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Lieutenant A. Irwin to be Captain (dated 10th January, 1912).

6TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Major (Captain, retired pay, Reserve of Officers) H. W. Worsley-Gough resigns his commission (dated 16th March, 1912).

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1st Battalion Notes.

MHOW,
29th February, 1912.

THE Battalion left Deolali on the evening of the 16th February and travelling in two troop trains reached Khandwa Junction early next morning. Here we transhipped to four troop trains on the metre gauge railway, which carried us to Mhow. C Company proceeded direct to Indore, where the Battalion finds a detachment of one company.

First impressions mean a great deal. Nothing could have created a more favourable impression of our new station than the reception we were accorded by the 14th Hussars on our arrival at Mhow. They voluntarily did a large share of our baggage fatigue, officers of the regiment met every train, refreshments were supplied on the platform for our officers and a square meal awaited every company in its barrack room and the sergeants and corporals in their respective messes.

We can only hope for an early opportunity of repaying to some extent the kindness and hospitality of Colonel Stephen and his regiment; it is certain that it will be long before the cordial reception they gave us will be forgotten.

Whatever Deolali might have proved to be as a two year station, we shall always have pleasant recollections of the few weeks we spent there. The shooting parties organised by that keen sportsman, the Archdeacon of Bombay, the paper chases, even the field days will be looked back to with real pleasure.

We had one or two quite good days' duck shooting on the Godavery River before we left Deolali, some officers gaining great distinction for themselves by pulling down almost invisible duck out of the skies.

Since our arrival it has been no uncommon sight to see officers come into breakfast with one eye and sometimes both almost closed up. Sympathetic enquirers always elicited the same reply, "It's those —— mosquitoes!" As a matter of fact these pests were very bad.

Some of us have been out with the Mhow hounds, but the majority are waiting till next season to buy old "hairies" to hunt on, as the country is rough and stony. The second day we were out Captain Clifford had a nasty fall, his pony putting its foot into a hole. However, we are glad to say he has now quite recovered.

Our move to Mhow has revived the spirits of the polo players. Unfortunately many good ponies were sold when we thought that Bombay and Deolali would be the last of our stations in India, and the difficult job of re-stocking our stables has had to be undertaken. The purchase of ponies seems to become more and more difficult every year. This fact would lead one to suppose that the sale of ponies is becoming increasingly easy, but, paradoxically, this is by no means the case.

Incidentally, it is this shortage of ponies which must stand as an excuse for the brevity of these notes. The writer is at present touring the country in search of ponies and left Mhow at such short notice that he forgot to depute someone to send home up-to-date news of the Battalion.

The following Appointments have been made:—

To be paid Lance-Corporals:—

No. 2179	Lance-Corporal	S. McPhee	from 14/2/12
„ 8182	„	J. Jacobs	„ 22/2/12
„ 9588	„	G. Smith	„ 22/2/12

To be Bandsman:—

No. 1909	Private	A. E. Stone	from 1/2/12

No. 232 Private H. M. Phillips extended his service to complete 12 years with the Colours, dated the 6th February.

No. 7154 Corporal H. Tutt re-engaged at Mhow for the Northumberland Fusiliers to complete 21 years' service on the 21st February.

Good Conduct Badges have been awarded as under:—

No. 1045	Private	J. Boughton	2	from 17/10/11
„ 2501	„	T. Lawson	1	„ 6/12/11
„ 3087	„	E. Hodsell	2	„ 22/ 1/12

2nd Battalion Notes.

HILLSBOROUGH BARRACKS, SHEFFIELD,
24th March, 1912.

SINCE writing the last notes the Coal Strike has been the chief topic of conversation, conversation which in most cases would not bear reproduction in print.

Before the outbreak of the strike Major Turner, Lieutenant Leverson and Second-Lieutenant Molineux had some days with the Grove. The best run was in the Monday country and took them over part of the Point-to-Point course at Gringley-on-the-Hill.

On the first of this month all officers were re-called from leave, and hunting was stopped.

Golf has been going strong and several games have been played at Lindrick, Sandygate and Dronfield, in preparation for the Army Golf Championship, which takes place at Hoylake on April 30th and following days, and for which we have entered a Regimental Team.

Squash racquets has also been providing us with a certain

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amount of exercise, and an American Tournament has been organized between the Regimental Staff and the various Companies, but up to the present the various pairs have been so busy practising that no matches have taken place.

The following officers have joined the Battalion during the month :—Captain Girdwood from the Staff College, pending absorption ; Captain Hardman-Jones from South Africa, where he has been on reconnaissance surveys ; Captain Auld from a Territorial Adjutancy in London ; Lieutenant Forster from a Gymnastic Course at Aldershot; and Second-Lieutenants Williams and Swaine on first appointment. The latter has been posted to the 1st Battalion.

Our only representative at a Bridge Tournament which was held in Sheffield earlier in the month, distinguished himself by carrying off the first prize.

Colonel Whitaker very kindly asked some of us over to Babworth Hall to play squash racquets which we very much enjoyed, and some more have gone to-day.

Mr. G. B. Foster, the Master of the Badsworth Hounds is very kindly allowing us to have our Regimental Race this year at their Point-to-Point meeting near Ackworth on the 12th April. We hope that the Strike will finish up in time to enable us to hold it.

We were sorry to hear yesterday afternoon that Captain Archer had got appendicitis, but as the operation has been successfully performed we hope that he will soon be well on the way to recovery.

The following non-commissioned officer and men have left the Service during the month :—

No. 6552 Lance-Sergeant C. W. Mercer.—Enlisted, 26/3/00; discharged, 25/3/12 ; service, 12 years ; served in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions. Service abroad : West Indies, 84 days ; South Africa, 4 years, 97 days ; India, 3 years and 20 days. In possession of Indian General Service Medal.

No. 9361 Private E. Hetherington.—Enlisted, 13/3/03 ; transferred to Army Reserve, 12/3/12 ; service, 9 years ; served in 2nd and 4th Battalions.

No. 175 Private J. Sykes.—Enlisted, 14/3/04 ; transferred to Army Reserve, 13/3/12 ; service, 8 years ; served in 1st, 2nd and 4th Battalions. Service abroad : South Africa, 1 year, 278 days ; India, 2 years, 133 days.

No. 6553 Private J. A. Mercer.—Enlisted, 26/3/00; discharged 25/3/12 ; service, 12 years ; served in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions. Service abroad : West Indies, 84 days ; South Africa, 4 years, 97 days ; India, 3 years and 20 days. In possession of Indian General Service Medal.

No. 1034 Lance-Sergeant E. Pease, B Company, qualified in the Mekometer, dated Hythe, the 16th ult.

No. 8022 Sergeant J. Brooks, C Company, qualified at Hythe, dated the 22nd ult.

The following Promotions and Appointments have been made :—

To be Sergeants :—

No. 3543	Lance-Sergeant	C. McEnery	from 29/1/12
„ 9891	„	G. Woods	„ 23/3/12

To be Corporals :—

No. 6968	Lance-Corporal	E. Wilford	from 29/1/12
„ 2388	„	C. Wood	„ 6/3/12
„ 2346	„	J. E. Wardle	„ 23/3/12

To be paid Lance-Corporal :—

No. 5174	Lance-Corporal	T. Watts	from 29/1/12

To be unpaid Lance-Corporals :—

No. 2119	Private	J. Daley	from 5/3/12
„ 2747	„	H. Cave	„ 5/3/12

Certificates of Education have been awarded as under :—

1st Class :—

(dated Aldershot, February, 1912)

No. 5205 Clr.-Sgt. R. Simpson No. 2815 Pte. G. Newman

1st Class (Group I.) :—

(dated Sheffield, February, 1912)

No. 2224 Pioneer-Sgt. R. Avery No. 3129 Pte. H. Booth
„ 3023 L.-Cpl. T. Honeyball „ 3362 „ H. Spaxman

2nd Class :—

(dated Sheffield, 29/2/12)

No. 3272 Pte. H. Myer No. 3318 Pte. B. Burkett
„ 3147 „ W. Johnston „ 3242 „ J. Henry

3rd Class :—

(dated Sheffield, 29/2/12)

No. 3314 Pte. W. Field No. 3283 Pte. J. Glasgow
„ 3322 „ C. Firth „ 3321 „ G. Allen
„ 3331 „ W. Gudgeon „ 3342 „ F. Thorn
„ 3336 „ W. Nicholson „ 3255 „ A. Calvert
„ 3222 „ W. Edmunds „ 3167 „ W. Hann
„ 3267 „ H. Wilson „ 3352 Boy F. Leaper

3rd Class :—

(dated Fleetwood, 13/3/12)

No. 3014 Pte. T. Renshaw No. 2876 Pte. J. Gritton
No. 2333 Pte. C. Card

Private J. Kelly transferred from the 5th Royal Irish Lancers on the 15th inst.

No. 2780 Colour-Sergeant-Instructor of Musketry F. Hamilton has been permitted to continue in the Service beyond 21 years.

We regret to announce the death at Manningham, Bradford, on the 23rd ult., of Sergeant H. Swire, Orderly Room Clerk of the late 4th Battalion.

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SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

The Annual St. George's Ball of the Sergeants will take place in the Gymnasium School, Hillsborough Barracks, Sheffield, on the 23rd April. All ex-members of the Sergeants' Mess of the Regiment are cordially invited. Owing to lack of knowledge of addresses of ex-members those who intend to be present are asked to accept this in lieu of individual invitations, and are requested to forward their names to the President, St. George's Ball Committee, Colour-Sergeant W. Watson, so that arrangements for accommodation, etc., can be made.

R.A.T.A. NOTES.

We plead "not guilty" when it comes to writing an eulogy about ourselves but it is refreshing to have had two public complimentary references made in the Victoria Hall, Sheffield, before huge audiences during the month by two speakers entirely dissociated with the Regiment, and those references so enthusiastically seconded by the audience, and we may be forgiven for placing these facts on record in the pages of the *St. George's Gazette*.

The first was on the occasion of the People's Saturday Concert on Saturday, 16th inst., when our Band undertook the major part of the programme; the speaker was the Rev. H. G. Oyston who in the course of his remarks complimented Mr. Cooper and his Band upon the splendid rendering of their programme, especially in that most difficult Overture Solennelle, "1812" by *Tschaikowsky*, and continuing his eulogy said that the Sheffield people, in the matter of music, were apt to be exclusive but when they heard the performance they had had that night they would receive the members of such a splendid band as the Northumberland Fusiliers as friends. Speaking of the men generally he said he had never met such a splendidly well-behaved body of men. Mr. Oyston's speech was received with tremendous applause.

The second occasion was at the Sunday Afternoon Service in the same building on the 17th when the Band under Mr. Cooper's bâton rendered the musical portion of the service including an Oratorio, splendidly received by the audience. The speaker was the Rev. J. H. Bateson, the late Secretary of the Royal Army Temperance Association, well known to many men in both Battalions. He was good enough to bear public testimony of the splendid men he had met out in India in both Battalions of the FIFTH, and of the excellent work the Regiment had performed in the cause of temperance, and that whenever duty had called them to active service the men of this splendid Regiment had always "Played the Game." So may it always be "Forti et fideli nihil difficile."

We congratulate Mr. Cooper and the Band on having won their way to popularity in Sheffield, the home of music.

2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes.

THE BARRACKS, PONTEFRACT,
22nd March, 1912.

COMPANY Training and the possibility of being called out on strike duty have occupied our attention most of this month. Each of the three Companies here has taken its turn every third day in being confined to barracks so as to be on the spot should trouble arise anywhere. Up to date, the Pontefract miners have been very peaceful and our services have not been required. We imagine there still exists some feeling against troops in the Featherstone district close by here ever since 1893 when troops were called out in aid of the civil power, and they have not yet got rid of the "Remember '93" feeling.

The wet state of the country has made the going very heavy here this month and sport with the Badsworth Hounds has been fair, though on the 19th after meeting at Balne Cross Roads they had about the fastest run of the season. On one or two occasions out-of-work miners who have come out to the meet have rather interfered with sport by surrounding the coverts and giving vent to view-holloas in every direction.

A very successful Sergeants' Dance was held in the Gymnasium on the 15th to celebrate St. Patrick's Day which this year fell on Sunday. Dancing was kept up till a late hour and the ball was largely attended, though owing to two of our Companies doing night-operations, several had to put in rather a later attendance than they otherwise would have done. Our Drums paid tribute to St. Patrick by giving a selection of all their Irish tunes which were much appreciated.

On the 12th we had a most interesting football match, namely, Officers of the Garrison v. The Sergeants. The game was played in a sea of mud and resulted in a win for the Officers by 4 goals to 3.

Extending over several days the Annual Regimental Bayonet Fighting Competition took place this month for the Non-Commissioned Officers and men on Detachment here. The winners here went in to Sheffield on the 13th to fight there but did not meet with success. Below are the results of the final pools:—

Over 3 years' service:—

1st	Private	Moat	D Company
2nd	,,	Bell	H ,,
3rd	,,	Kipling	B ,,

Under three years' service:—

1st	Private	Payne	B Company
2nd	,,	Cunningham	B ,,
3rd	,,	Amey	D ,,

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BIDDULPH FOOTBALL SHIELD.

FIRST ROUND.

B COMPANY v. F COMPANY.

This match was played at Sheffield on the 29th ult. and was a very strenuous game throughout. When the whistle blew for time neither side had scored consequently extra time was played. B Company played with grim determination in the extra time and outplayed F Company scoring twice in succession B Company ran out winners by 2 goals to nothing.

The semi-final for this Shield was played at Sheffield on the 7th inst. when B Company met C Company. The former was easily the best team and won by 4 goals to 2. The score does not nearly do B Company justice for C Company's goal was continually being bombarded during the whole of the second half, great credit being due to the latter's goalkeeper, Sergeant Brooks, whose saving was magnificent throughout the game.

Depôt Notes.

THE BARRACKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
23rd March, 1912.

A Boxing Competition took place on the 26th and 27th February. The entries amounted to 80.

The 9st. Competition was won by Private Furness, who defeated Private McIvor, 3rd Battalion Durham Light Infantry, on points after a spirited fight.

The following Fusiliers were winners of heats :—

8ST. 4LB. COMPETITION.

No. 8066 Private Campbell beat No. 3363 Private Dunn.

9ST. COMPETITION.

No. 8075 Private Burnside beat Private Dimsdale (3rd Battalion Durham Light Infantry).

No. 8091 Private Blackbird beat No. 3262 Private Smith.

No. 8092 Private Furness beat No. 8078 Private Nelson.

No. 8062 Private Irwin beat Driver Young (Royal Field Artillery).

No. 3230 Private Mengan beat Private Lavery (4th Battalion Durham Light Infantry).

10ST. COMPETITION.

No. 3289 Private Hutchinson beat Private Collins (Durham Light Infantry).

NEWCASTLE GARRISON FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

The results up to date are :—

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Goals For	Goals Against	Points
36th Batt. R.F.A....	9	8	0	1	33	7	17
No. 1 Co., 5th Fus.	10	8	1	1	46	13	17
„ 2 „ „	9	3	4	2	18	23	8
„ 1 „ D.L.I....	12	5	7	0	25	26	10
27th Batt. R.F.A....	10	3	6	1	16	24	7
60th „ „	10	3	6	1	15	27	7
No. 2 Co., D.L.I....	10	2	8	0	12	45	4

On Tuesday, the 19th, No. 1 Company were caught in bad form and were beaten by 5 goals to love by the 36th Battery, and the latter should now easily be the winners of the League. No. 1 Company played a hard game, but they lacked combination. Great enthusiasm was shown by the spectators. It is quite expected that these two teams will meet in the "Knock-out Competition" and No. 1 Company have the opportunity of reversing the order.

The Newcastle United Club have been kind enough to allow the final of the "Knock-out Competition" to be played on their ground on the 18th April.

Results of the Knock-out Competition up to date :—

No. 2 Company Durham Light Infantry beat No. 2 Company 5th Fusiliers by 4 goals to 3.

No. 1 Company 5th Fusiliers beat 27th Battery Royal Field Artillery by 11 goals to 3.

The following Certificates of Education have been awarded, dated Newcastle-on-Tyne, 2nd March, 1912 :—

3rd Class :—

No. 3279	Pte.	F. White	No. 3355	Pte.	J. Morgan
„ 3301	„	S. Pendall	„ 8072	„	G. Armstrong
„ 3311	„	W. Cox	„ 8080	„	J. Dales
„ 3323	„	W. Rutherford	„ 8084	„	G. Williams
„ 3354	„	P. Kettlewell	„ 8108	„	J. Edmondson

Sergeant-Major H. Belchem proceeded to Aldershot on the 29th February to attend a course of instruction in Physical Training.

The undermentioned qualified at the Rifle Qualifying Course at the School of Musketry, Hythe, on the 22nd February, 1912 :—

2nd-Lieut. R. C. Roddam, 3rd Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers.
Sergt-Major H. Belchem „ „

4th Battalion Notes.

HEXHAM,
22nd March, 1912.

On Tuesday evening, the 20th February, at Tilley's Restaurant, Newcastle, Colonel J. M. Clark, V.D., J.P., of Bellister Castle, was entertained to dinner by the past and present officers of the 4th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers on the occasion of his retirement from the command of the Battalion. Colonel Clark's period of service dates back to 1878, and during that long term of years he has done invaluable service on behalf of the "Greys." It was mainly due to his initiative that the very successful divisional camp was held at Bellister last year, and in other important ways he has shown his devotion to the Service. The chair at the dinner was occupied by Lieutenant-Colonel Jasper Gibson, V.D., the new Commanding Officer of the Battalion, who was supported by the guest of the evening, Colonel Wilfrid Gibson, V.D., Colonel L. C. Lockhart, V.D., Majors Ed. Dixon, Bickers Stephenson, J. B. Lowes, Stephen and J. J. Gillespie, Captains Trevor, Napier, St. John, W. E. Stephenson,

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Dickie (R.A.M.C.), B. D. Gibson, D. K. McComb and S. Hankin, Lieutenant W. Rob, Mr. Geo. R. Gibson, etc. After the toast of "The King" the health of Colonel Clark was given by the Chairman and most cordially honoured. Colonel Clark said that though he had not had so long a period of service as his friends and predecessors in the command, Colonels Gibson and Lockhart, he had yet had thirty-four years' service in the "Greys." He had spent the best and happiest years of his life in the old 1st V.B.N.F. and the Territorial Force. He would strongly recommend young men to take up the work, not only as a duty, which must always come first, but also as a means of great pleasure. He had made many valuable friendships in the course of his service, friendships that he could not have formed outside his connection with the Service. He appreciated very highly the compliment they had paid him, and the assistance he had always received from them, and while thanking them from the bottom of his heart he could assure them that that evening would remain among his most cherished memories.

Captain Hankin is attending a month's Initial Course with our 3rd Battalion at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Lieutenant Swan a similar course with the 2nd Battalion at Sheffield. Lieutenant J. R. Robb is attending a Maxim Gun Course at Hythe.

On the 23rd and 24th inst. we are holding an Instructional Tour for officers and senior non-commissioned officers in the vicinity of Hexham and Chollerford.

Several changes of Permanent Staff take place to-morrow. Colour-Sergeant Fewster moves from Haltwhistle to Hexham in relief of Sergeant-Major Wynnsford who will be discharged to pension on the 15th prox. Sergeant Montieth moves from Corbridge to Haltwhistle, being relieved by Sergeant Remnant from our 2nd Battalion. Sergeant Beckingham is discharged on completion of twelve years' service. This non-commissioned officer has secured a lucrative post in the Straits Settlements. Sergeant Beckingham has the perhaps unique distinction of having served as a sergeant in four Line Battalions of the FIFTH and having played with the Battalion Cricket Teams of all four Battalions. He has also won the Billiard Championship of the 1st and 2nd Battalions.

5th Battalion Notes.

WALKER-ON-TYNE,
20th March, 1912.

RECRUITS are coming in well at Headquarters and the Detachments, one result of the "strike" is, that our Recruits are able to get in their drills.

Whitley Bay Range is to be re-opened and we have been allotted dates very similar to last year, and hope to have a good beat up on these dates.

The Wallsend Detachment held a successful dance on the 13th inst.

The Gosforth Detachment gave their last dance of the season on the 7th inst., when over a hundred couples were present.

We welcome Second-Lieutenant T. L. Bainbridge, who has joined us during the month

6th Battalion Notes.

NEWCASTLE,
26th March, 1912.

DATTERS military have been rather unsettled owing to the industrial crisis, and shooting practice has been much hampered. We hope that before very long things will be adjusted, as this period of the year is one of great activity.

Recruiting is going along very satisfactorily, and we have great hopes of being up to strength at camp at Scarborough this year. Camp will be from the 16th to the 30th June.

Sergeant-Major H. A. Partington lectured on "Training, Night Operations, etc.," last week. With a very good attendance, the lecture was most instructive.

Regimental pay and allowances are now authorised for week-end camps, and it is likely that later on in the year several of our Companies will arrange to hold them.

Authority has been given to the Battalion to raise a cyclist section. One shilling will be allowed per day in camp to each member of this section, and applications should be made to Captain Dryden as soon as possible.

Editorial Notes.

6, WASHINGTON HOUSE,
BASIL STREET, LONDON, S.W.,
25th March, 1912.

THERE are still a number of Bound Volumes for 1911 for sale, and there has been no great demand, as yet, for the copies of the History of the 2nd Battalion to which reference was made in Editorial Notes last month.

The Editor would be glad if subscribers for Bound Volumes who have included the price of these volumes in their subscription and have not received their copies would communicate with him, and also if those subscribers who

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That is what we are known as, we are the push you require,
For outposts all night under freezin' an' rearguard all day under fire,
Anything 'ot or unwholesome? anything dusty or dry?
Borrow a bunch of Ikonas! trot out the —— M.I.!

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have a standing order for Bound Volumes would send him their names; there is no list or record in the "office" of the names of these subscribers. The Bound Volumes for 1911 are now ready, and a number of them have been sent out.

Letter to the Editor.

HILLSBOROUGH BARRACKS, SHEFFIELD,
24th March, 1912.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Might I ask through your columns that all past and present officers of the Regiment who may not have received an invitation for St. George's Day, 1912, would kindly communicate with me as soon as possible. Several letters sent out to the only addresses known to me have been returned to me through the Post Office with "not known" inscribed thereon, and I am afraid more may have gone astray.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES TURNER, Major,
President St. George's Day Committee,
2nd Battalion 5th Fusiliers.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY.

EXTRACTS FROM *ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE*, MARCH 31ST, 1887.

NEWRY, 31st March, 1887. 1ST BATTALION NOTES.—The good feeling which has existed for many years between the 85th Light Infantry and ourselves has been again exemplified this month. We have received a most hospitable invitation for as many as wish to attend the Punchestown Meeting, to put up with the 85th at the Curragh, and two or three of us hope to avail ourselves of their kindness and renew old friendships.

BELFAST NOTES.—The 5th Fusiliers have been rather in a minority in the Garrison lately. In the first place "E" Company went to Newtownards for musketry leaving only just enough men of the Regiment to form a guard. No sooner does "E" Company return from musketry than "C" Company is bustled off to Willowbank for Military Training. For the benefit of the uninitiated I may state that Willowbank is an old mill that has been several years unused and, therefore, very tumbledown. This and the fact that it is situated in the middle of a dismal swamp, no doubt caused the Royal Engineers at once to pitch upon it as a good place for barracks during the late riots. It is, of course, a splendid place for Military Training, because, if you dig a rifle pit, by the time it is finished it is full of water. The doctors all say the place is healthy, so I suppose it is.

MEAN MEER, 7th March, 1887. 2ND BATTALION NOTES.—On Monday, 21st February, our ball to General and Mrs. Murray came off with great *éclat*. A guard of honour under Lieutenant Braithwaite received the General. The outside of the mess house was illuminated as well as the approaches to it. A large number of the guests were from Lahore. Colonel Pocklington in an appropriate speech at supper time proposed the health of the General and his family. It is unnecessary to say that this was most cordially responded to. The General replied in suitable terms on behalf of himself, Mrs. Murray, and his daughter.

Dancing was kept up till a late hour and our thanks are due to Captain Sturges who made all the arrangements.

"ALONZO, THE BRAVE."

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE, MEAN MEER.

(*Civil and Military Gazette*).

Here is the caste. The people responsible for the puns ought to be court-martialled:—

Alonzo, Pupil to Faust, a running Major in the Gnorthumbrian Phuzileers, who does not get *along zo fa(u)st* as his tutor might wish ... ... Captain Sturges

Dr. Faust, M.A., D.D., slightly M.A.D. at times. An old and young man, professor and *tuite-or* in St. George's College—
Lieutenant Tuite

Mephistopheles, the blackest of all Choukidars to be found in the Sudder Bazaar. Plagued by Martha, and wishes to *Carte'r* to regions below. A character without one—
Captain Carter

Sybel, a simple youth, the *current* of whose thoughts runs in *currant* jam ... ... Lieutenant Cole

Pipo Declayo, who generally appears in Alonzo's Company; though not often seen is always *heard* ... Lieutenant Heard

T. Atkins and Billie Snookie, privates in Alonzo's Company ... ... Privates Peters and Bald

Fifo-Fifer ... ... Private Coyne

Rataplan Magnus, drummer ... ... Private Symons

Imogene, the fairest of the fair in love or war. Alonzo's *Idol* but an *idle* girl ... ... Mrs. Carter

Dame Martha, who will not *Mar tha* piece and who never gives an *E-vasey-ve* answer... ... ... Mr. Vasey

"A FOX-CHASE AT SEA."

IT is many years now since I went to India with the "Dounbrook Rifles." The troopships in those days were not as they were later on, so long that you could be kissing a man's sweetheart at one end of them and he couldn't see you from the other. No, we went round the Cape in sailing vessels then, and were often six months without seeing land. Well boys, when I went out we had a wild blade of the "188th Blazers" named O'Brien going with us, and he was in charge of two packs of foxhounds. Things were so dull and miserable before we reached the Gulf of Mexico that hardly any two on the ship were on speaking terms. Says Blazer O'Brien, "Be jabers, if we don't do something we'll be all mad before we reach Bombay." In the dusk of the evening, while the ladies and gentlemen were at dinner, he and some of our wild blades drew a red herring all over the sleeping cabins and the ship. Towards midnight, when all was quiet, Blazer quietly opened the door of the kennel, and with a "Wow, wow! huroo! tare away!" off went the packs of hounds on the trail of the red herring. They swarmed into the ladies' and gentlemen's cabins and raised such a rookawn that everyone thought that the last day had come, gentlemen swearing, ladies screaming, all rushing about into the wrong cabins, and in her terror an old maid, a third cousin of the first mate's wife's sister-in-law, rushed into the arms of a swivel-eyed old gentleman whom she did not like. Some of the hounds were rooting and tearing on top of the piano keys, making weird accompaniments to the screaming of the ladies and their own howls; they were trying to get at half of the herring that Blazer O'Brien had hidden in the piano.

Down below, between decks, the hounds were sweeping all before them. Soldiers tumbling out of hammocks on the top of each other, women and children shrieking, and in her fright a daughter of the regiment flew into the arms of one of our fellows whom she didn't care for. How the blazes she found him out in the hullabaloo and darkness I don't know; however, she did, and they were married soon after we landed. All the time, some of the bright boys were up in the rigging giving "view haloos" and blowing hunting horns they got from

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Blazer O'Brien, and the regimental bugler took it up and sounded the "fire" alarm. Talk about being rocked in the cradle of the deep. My soul, but they woke old Father Neptune out of his cradle then and no mistake.

Good luck to the ship's captain, dead or alive, above or below, wherever he is, he was never tired of sounding the "grog horn" for the men, so when the dogs were caught we got a dram of rum. Blazer O'Brien said that if he knew who let the hounds loose he'd make it hot for him. "That's true for you," says the adjutant, "if you go on as you are you'll make it very hot indeed, in the end, for the man who let them loose, that is if the old chap down below will have him."

Our chief, the Colonel, let the whole matter slide, as no harm came of it, and the bit of devilment made us all fast friends, as it gave us something to laugh at and to talk about; and to crown it all, the swivel-eyed old gentleman was all right soon after, as the old maid straightened his eye as straight as a reaping hook with a box of her fist when she found out who had a hold of her. She made them so straight, how I don't know, but she married him afterwards all the same.

Pass around the beer, boys, till I tell you:—

HOW JACK SMITH RAISED THE WICK.

Jack Smith, a strapping farmer's boy, was travelling in England looking for work, and coming to a large town he entered an inn where a number of young men were seated at a table listening to a dashing recruiting-sergeant singing—

A RECRUITING SONG.

It is better to be marching, pipe-claying and starching,
Than pulling cold turnips, or digging out spuds;
And the girls, the darlings, their hearts with love scorching,
Will all be your own in your gay soldier's duds.

Sure soldiering brings honour and money in lumps,
It will square up your shoulders and straighten your humps;
And if ever you're killed or die anywhere,
You'll get bands and drums and three volleys in the air.

Chorus:—It is better to be marching, &c.

But for one man who is killed—now boys pay attention—
There are hundreds who get a fine stand-at-ease pension;
So brave lads take the bob, and we'll make the bones rattle
In all the King's foes when we meet them in battle.

Chorus:—It is better to be marching, &c.

Jack was so pleased with the beer, the uniform, and the song, that he enlisted, and soon after joined his regiment in Ireland.

And when he went in for his dinner
There was meat, soup and spuds sure ochone,
But the orderly man very soon had him twigged,
And he shoved the poor 'cruity the bone.

Jack was a bit slow, but soldiering soon smartened him up and made him a clever fellow. About two years after he joined two of his schoolmates from the old village in "Merry England" joined the regiment. Jack and his two chums got a pass for the night, and, talking about old times and "the old folks at home," they celebrated their meeting with plenty of beer. Returning to barracks through the town next morning, with sick heads, and all their money nearly expended, they having only twopence between them, they didn't know what to do to "raise the wick." At last Jack observed a man drawing up buckets of whiskey out of a spirit vault with a rope; diving into a baker's shop he bought a twopenny loaf, and passing the man just as he had the bucket of whiskey drawn up, he accidentally (?) dropped the loaf into the whiskey; "rot you and your whiskey obstructing sober people," says Jack, at the same time pushing the loaf into the whiskey to soak; "take it out," says the man; "What good is it now? it is ruined," says Jack, giving it another dip in the whiskey; the man roared out "Take it out you limb of blazes, you have a pint of whiskey in it." So he had, and it cured the heads of Jack and his chums. When they got their pay afterwards they came to pay for the whiskey, but when the spirit merchant heard their story he laughed and wouldn't take the money, and he gave them another fine raise-the-wick-jorum of whiskey.

J. H.

SOCRATES AND THE GROUSER.

S. Listen, Grouser, looking backwards, can you readily deny
That the Fates by whose stern mandates we have travelled, you and I,
Have played up in generous fashion, when selecting our next "Quo"
Done their best for those, who trust them for the place where they will go.

G. Have you ever heard me grumble at the stations we have seen?
Praise of Vryburg, Wynberg, Capetown ever on my lips has been.
Frequently a spellbound audience hears me telling of Peshawar
How I sallied forth, undaunted, made the mighty Mohmand cower.

Have you never heard description of Mauritius from my tongue,
Blue lagoons and feathery palm trees, coral isles we sailed among,
Of Calcutta's gentle babus and the splendid time we had
At Rawalpindi, and how, really, Gharial was not too bad.

S. Yes, I've listened in amazement to your tales of land and sea,
Wondered whether I was dreaming, if in truth this could be he,
Who, when stationed at these places, called the gods to witness that
Nowhere else on earth existed place more pestilential, sat
Pondering over other stations, where the regiment might have been,
Counting days to serve for pension, mourning days when he was keen.

G. Fabulous and foolish fiction you indulge in, when you cast
These aspersions on my versions of the great and golden past.
Just because you heard me, truly, say this place is clearly shown
To be quite the most accursed that our service yet has known.

S. Poor old Grouser, I will grant it, since, if filled with calm content
You would lose your great attraction, spoil my chance of argument.
Still, in years to come, I'm trusting, 'tis too much to hope for now,
That I'll hear your grave assertion, that you always swore by Mhow.

H. R. S.

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A DRAFTY'S SENSATIONS.

BEFORE.

I.

HE'D been warned for the draft and looked forward with glee
To a jaunt for some years in the shiny,
Though he knew it would cost him by way of a fee
Sea sickness whilst crossing the briny.

II.

Against this he bethought him of Top of the House
And of how he'd endeavour to rook 'em
Who strove on the voyage from stern unto bows
To fleece him according to hûkm.

III.

So he passed through the Bay and the Mediterranean,
Port Said, the Red Sea, and then Suez,
And clasped with both hands where he felt the most pain
And thought how unfeeling the crew is.

IV.

When Aden was left and the nose of the ship
Ploughed a way through the Indian Ocean,
He began to consider the end of his trip
And to weave a most fanciful notion,

V.

Of oxen and palm trees, and rajahs bespangled
Of seduction of Orients' glamour
(N.B.—He'd not met mukhan wallahs who wrangled
Nor discovered that glamour means clamour.)

AFTER.

Coral Strands as per hymn and as taught in the schools
Turned out to be dust plains most windy:
The palm trees and oxen were drarbies and mules
Temp.—Zero; Time—Midnight; Place—Pindi.

"BY ONE OF THEM."

SOLDIER ANECDOTES.

A CONTENTED MIND IS A BLESSING KIND.

A certain transport-sergeant had utilized a lean-to shed in rear of his stables to pen a few fowls, and in due course began to reap a small profit from the sale of eggs. Privates Ruth, Foy and McVay, coming from the canteen one night, decided that they would try and get a look inside the shed with a view to obtaining a cheap breakfast. As the door was locked, the nearest way in appeared to be through the hole about eighteen inches square through which the hens made their egress, and through this Private Foy soon made his way. Unknown to the men, however, a mule had been stabled for the night in the shed, and Foy had no sooner got inside than the mule gave him a kick in the stomach, which very nearly doubled him up. He very soon made his way out without stopping to look for eggs. The others asked him how many he had got. "One," he said, "but there's plenty more." Private Ruth, on this, got through the hole, but he had scarcely time to stand up before the mule planted both heels in his ribs, and he made his way out in much quicker time than he had got in. The others asked him how many he had got. "Two," said he, "you'd better go in McVay." Private McVay, however, who had heard the scuffle and had noticed the pained look on their faces when they came out, was rather suspicious that all was not as it should be. "Oh, no," said he, "we don't want to be too hard on the transport-sergeant, he's not a bad sort, and as Foy's got one and you've got two, that's one apiece, and I think that will do us nicely."

HIS FAVOURITE PARABLE.

A certain Army chaplain, on his round of visits to the barrack school, interviewed the small son of a soldier with regard to his acquaintance with Bible stories. "My lad," he said, "you have, of course, heard of the parables?" "Yes, sir," shyly answered the boy, whose mother had inducted him in sacred history. "Good!" said the chaplain. "Now which of them do you like the best of all?" The boy squirmed, but at last, noticing his mother's frowns, replied, "That one where somebody loafs and fishes."

OVERHEARD ON THE RANGE.

Voice through the telephone to the officer at the firing point:—"What shall I do? What shall I do? Two men have fired at the same target!" Officer at the firing point:—"What was the value of the hits?" Voice at the telephone:—"They were both misses, sir!"

A HINT.

What to study for a Staff appointment.—"Burke's Peerage."

A TRIP TO KASHMIR.

(*Concluded from page 33*).

Our start, from a military point of view, was not good, for just before moving off we discovered that our mule drivers had neither forage nor money to buy any. This caused over an hour's delay, for none of us liked to think the mules would be trekking on an empty stomach.

Owing to this delay several of our party lost their keenness for the march, and accordingly hired a small boat to take them down the river towards Putan, our first stage; unfortunately for them they fell asleep, and the boatman put them ashore near a small village, and directed them to Putan, assuring them it was not more than one mile distant, and as they could see the tall elm trees lining the Bara Mula road they believed him, with the result that they still had four-fifths of the journey to complete.

The only remarkable thing about Putan is the stupidity of the public servants, the telegraphist in charge of the post office taking first place in this respect. It was with the greatest difficulty we could persuade him to send a telegram to Sunny Bank asking for money to purchase forage for our mules. This money we received next day at Bara Mula to the great joy of the whole party.

Our first duty at Bara Mula was to send a telegram to Mr. Richardson, the chief engineer of the Jhelum Electric Power House, who a month previously had invited our party to stay with him one day at Mahora.

We accordingly timed our marches to reach Mahora about 10 a.m. This was accomplished, and our party sat down to a real good spread, which was followed by a close inspection of the Power House itself.

The building has an area equal to a full-sized football ground, and is as high as a double storeyed barrack room. The machinery is all American, and driven by water obtained from Jhelum about seven miles further up the river.

The water comes down in huge pipes at an imperceptible slope and follows the contour of the hills 400ft. above the road and, on its arrival at the Power House, tumbles down almost perpendicularly into the huge metal buckets which revolve at a tremendous rate. These buckets, which are really part of a

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wheel, are only one motion removed from the huge dynamos themselves, but the whole run with extraordinary smoothness.

When one remembers that Srinagar is between fifty and sixty miles from Mahora, it will be easily understood than an enormous power must be generated to light up the whole of Srinagar and Bala Mula, but such is the case as the current starts from the Power House at a pressure never less than 65,000 volts.

During the inspection a few stories about the Maha Rajah amused our party.

When the Power House was to be opened formally the Maha Rajah was invited down to inspect the finishing work previous to starting, and at the conclusion of the inspection he was invited to pull the lever which would set the machinery in motion. The polished lever put there for the occasion looked harmless enough, but after looking at it doubtfully for a moment he shook his head and replied, "You do it, Mr. Resident." Thus the honour fell to a British officer.

The next part to be inspected was where the water falls down the hill into the Power House, but on looking up the khud side the Rajah shook his head decisively, replying, "No," and it was with difficulty that they persuaded him to get into a small car, but once there he was whisked up the khud before he realised what was happening, and before he could ask any questions he was down again. He was so delighted with this that he ordered a summer house to be built on top of the hill, which had never been occupied up to our arrival.

As our next march was only a short one, we decided to start early and let the mules have a day's grazing. As usual, some of our party tried to beat previous records in travelling, with the result that several of them almost ran into a young lady and an elderly gentleman who were walking along the road while fresh horses were being put into their tonga.

One glance at the elderly gentleman was sufficient to make our party realise that they were in the presence of an important person, and when he pulled them up—in a manner peculiar to a London policeman on duty—they were careful to stand to attention.

While he was being told all there was to tell about our furlough he stood in the middle of the road, feet astride, and his hands at the correct position of the "Stand at Ease" suddenly he sprung to attention and remarked that it was a d——d sight better than loafing around the canteen, and bidding them good morning, moved off, followed by the young lady whose shoulders shook with suppressed laughter.

On our arrival at the Dak Bungalow an inspection of the visitors' book told us we had had been talking to the Surgeon-General of India.

Nothing of importance occurred up to our arrival at Domel where our former friends the butcher and his satellites visited us with a view to doing a bit of business. They appeared very crest fallen when they realised we had sufficient mutton to last to Kohala, and in their anxiety to do some business they disclosed the proper price of mutton, so we left Domel convinced we had paid seventy-five per cent. too much for the goat of sacred memory.

In the evening we were visited by an old gentleman who could not possibly be mistaken for anything but a colonel (retired) up to any range under 500yds. He quickly verified our guess, and proceeded to inspect our transport. After complaining bitterly about the condition of one of our mules, and telling the native driver from A. to Z. what he thought of him and his ancestors for seven generations back he wound up with a threat to report him. As all of our party seemed duly impressed with his undoubted fine flow of language he proceeded to give us a little advice about the treatment of natives, which, if it had been followed might have resulted in some of our chaps coming out of detention shortly, provided their conduct had earned them the full remission of sentence given to well-conducted prisoners.

Our next march to Dulai was uneventful, and at night our party was a little depressed at the thought of this being their last night in Kashmir. So gloomy was the party that, as a last resource our messing committee decided to wash out all debt incurred for cigarettes, etc., during our march from Srinagar, and also to divide the remainder of the stock on hand. As each man was given seventeen packets of cigarettes, one stick of tobacco, etc., he brightened up considerably, the result being a fairly happy party marched into Kohala.

We arrived in Kohala about 10 a.m., and took possession of a shed which two hours before had been occupied by camels, but it saved us from unpacking our carts and pitching tents.

Some of our party could not resist the temptation of going straight into Gharial, which was another seventeen miles distance over the old tonga route, they arrived in Gharial about seven p.m. with a thirst that was worth every inch of it.

Two days later the remainder of the party arrived with our baggage, and thus ended a furlough which the majority of our party will regard as the greatest episode of their lives.

FORTY YEARS' SERVICE WITH THE FIFTH FUSILIERS.

By Mr. L. WALLACE, late Bandmaster, 2nd Batt. 5th Fusiliers).

(*Continued from page 34*).

I can't leave Portland without telling about a badger a man named Hoskins had. The first we heard of it was one day when Hoskins came into the Sergeants' Mess and casually mentioned that he had a badger that he wanted killed but he hadn't the heart to do it himself. Had anybody got a dog that could do the business for him? The Armourer-Sergeant possessed a fine big bulldog which he said would soon settle the matter. In the afternoon a small party made their way to a little hut where the badger was kept and the dog was set to work. During the mix up the onlookers took refuge on boxes, and one or two actually hung on to the rafters. At last the badger retired to his box and opinion was divided as to who had won, but as the dog died during the night the palm went to the badger, which itself—so its master said—was in a bad way. Knowing the man I had now begun to get a little bit suspicious that he was having a laugh at our expense. One of the officers who had a couple of bull terriers, fine animals of which he was very proud, heard of the badger and being of a sporting nature offered the services of his dogs. The next I heard was that those dogs were on the sick list. At last nearly all the dogs in the Fort were turned out at that animal, and when I saw Hoskins shortly after, I enquired after the health of his pet. With a twinkle in his eye he said, "He thought the last bout had done it good and made it buck up a bit." I don't know what became of the animal. Very likely it was reserved for the relieving regiment to deal with.

The following was told in the Sergeants' Mess the morning after, but as much the same kind of thing, with different results, occurs frequently in all institutions of the kind, it does not require much telling:—A lot of the members as usual forgot it was past closing time, except one, and he with forethought and perhaps wise with former experiences, locked the door, just as one might say as a precautionary measure. A couple of candles were lighted and the gas turned off while conversation was carried on in low tones and lemonade dispensed in what's called the "glory-hole." An occasional laugh and then someone would forget where he was for the moment and raise his voice. Anyhow, they attracted the attention of the orderly-officer, who had just completed his rounds. One of the talkers heard the clank of a scabbard. The Mess had been black-listed on account of some former indiscretion, so a whispered "Hush," and all was silent. The handle of the door rattled as if some one was trying it, then rattled again furiously. "It's no use," called out the caterer in a sleepy voice from his bunk in the corner, "It's after hours, I can't let you in." "D——, it, I am the orderly-officer. Open the door at once." The door was opened with an apology. "Now, what does all this mean, having the Mess open at this hour?" "I am just finishing my accounts for the day, sir," said the caterer. "I haven't much time in the morning." "Where are all the sergeants who were in here just now kicking up such a row?" "Sergeants, sir?" This in a surprised manner, at the same time casting an eye around the dim lighted Mess as if he expected to see ghosts.

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"No sir, no sergeants have been here since the Mess closed at 11 o'clock." It was clear there was no one then in the Mess other than themselves, and the officer was puzzled but not beaten. "Where do these stairs lead to?" he asked. "To the kitchen, sir." "Has it got another door?" "Yes sir, just by the door where you came in." "Ah, yes, I think I understand now," said the orderly-officer as he turned to go. While he was rating the caterer the breakers of military law had been carefully tip-toeing out by the front *via* the kitchen. Something like this occured at Newry when the 1st Battalion were stationed there, only it had a different ending, with the smile against the members. I expect some remember the occasion.

Like most other parts of the world where troops do a part of their soldiering, Portland had its points good and indifferent. There was the fishing which afforded us many a pleasant hour's sport, whether trolling for pollock with ragworm in the West Bay, or fishing with rod and line, with live prawns as bait, from off the breakwater for bass and getting an occasional stray mullet also. Weymouth, the popular seaside resort, was only just across the way with its run of amusements for those inclined that way, but still the men did not much care for the station. The climb up to the Verne was worth remembering, especially after a long wearisome march in heavy marching order, and the last three hundred yards was killing. If a gentle zephyr was blowing down in the village of Fortunes Well, it was almost sure to be a gale in a small way on top, for the Verne was the home of the winds and whirlwinds, and on a windy day it was a difficult matter for those on duty to get about at all. Bank holidays were signalized by the advent of crowds of trippers who invaded all parts of the island. As they made their appearance, coming up the white roads, they reminded one of an army of ants on trail in India. The object of their visit to such an out of the way place must have been a curiosity to see the celebrated Convict Prison, with the possibility of a glimpse at the convicts. This, however, was not often feasible. When I sit down in the evening thinking, Portland is one of the places I look back on with pleasure, for it was our first station after the home coming.

Portsmouth welcomed us as old friends, for the 1st Battalion had been there about four years before, and was very popular. The General very soon had us on parade to finish his inspection, and we marched past as usual, after which the Band and Drums were preparing to get out of the way when the Colonel sent word to say the Battalion was to "double-past." This was one of the General's surprises, and had not been done since they were stationed in Nowshera seven years before. The order came, then, as a surprise, and found us unprepared, but I instantly gave the Band the order to be ready to play the "Keel Row," a tune fairly suitable and easy, and then hurried away to instruct the Drums in their part. By this time the Battalion was ready, and the command "Double march" given. The Drums took up the time, but slow, and I was so busy getting them to beat quicker that I could not for the moment pay attention to what the Band was doing, and soon things were in a fine medley. It appears that some unfortunately did not hear or apparently understand their instructions, and among them a few old bandsmen who formerly had been accustomed to play "Mony Musk" for the double-past, and they stuck to the traditional tune while the others went on with the "Keel Row." I hurried to the front rank and making myself heard as well as I could I ordered them to play the "Keel Row," and this they tried to do, but the rear rank who had been going on with that tune, hearing something wrong in the front rank changed to "Mony Musk"! I thought of a lot of things to say just then, but dared not give them expression, and the General came riding by and—*en passant*, as they say in chess—called us the most damnable band he had ever heard!

All eyes and minds were at this time fixed attentively on South Africa, and as the shades then grew darker so went up the hopes of seeing active service, until at last they became a fact. Our 1st Battalion, which was at home recouping after its work in the Sudan and in Crete, was among the first ordered to embark for the South; events followed quickly, and then our Battalion received its orders to be ready to follow on. The Reserves were called up and joined us in their hundreds, and as each detachment came in it was given a most enthusiastic reception by the people of Portsmouth. The Band met and played them in, to the then popular marches, "Soldiers of the Queen," "Second to None," and "Now we shan't be long." The barracks were soon filled to overflowing. After receiving these strong drafts we numbered something like 1,500 strong, a fine hardy-looking lot of men. I had seen the Reserves called up before and wondered if this lot, as they certainly were, would be built on the same lines. When they found the confinement of barracks a bit irksome, especially those who had that everlasting dryness in the throat, it beceme the dodge to get a sergeant's or corporal's stripe sewn on to the coat, and there were so many sergeants and corporals about that hardly anyone knew who was who. The masquerader would then fall in a fatigue party, which was never hard to get, and march it off by way of the Cambridge Barracks—then occupied by the Berkshire regiment—all military formalities being strictly observed until they turned the corner outside. They then dismissed themselves and "spread." Shortly afterwards information would be brought in that some of our men were in town "celebrating," though who could tell how they managed to get there? Picquets would be hurried out to look them up, a manœuvre that met with only moderate success, since at night it was passably easy to break out, for those so minded, by getting over the high railings by which the barracks were fenced in. One of the Band tried it one night after mess, but he got a surprise. As he was getting down on the outside one of the spikes acted as policeman and held on to his great coat, and there he was left dangling, helpless and sorry. The usual sympathetic crowd quickly assembled, but no effort could release him until the police came along and gathered him in. Needless to add his chums "roasted" him over his escapade.

As the time drew near for the Battalion's departure, so the news from the front shewed the possibility of reinforcements not being required. It looked, at times, as if the Boers were already beaten and demoralized—so at any rate thought the newspapers, and in discussing the chances with one of our officers just after the news of the victory of Elandslaagte his comment was, "I am afraid it will all be over before we land," and that was the opinion held by most. Of course everyone knows how wide of the mark these ideas were. On the 2nd November (I think it was the 2nd), the Battalion marched to the railway station to entrain for Southampton. All Portsmouth turned out to give them a good send off, and on arrival at Southampton they found a new vessel of the Castle line, the *Kildonan Castle*, bound on this its first voyage to the Cape. Sergeant-Major Redhead, who seemed to know what was customary on such occasions, requested champagne to be served to all in the 2nd Class, and to my surprise his request was complied with at once by the steward. In the afternoon, after sundry words of advice from well-wishers to hide myself on board till they got to sea, I bid all good-bye and the vessel moved off accompanied by the syrens of all the vessels in harbour, whistling out *Hip, Hip, Hip, Hooray* in steamer language. It was very lonely going back to Portsmouth, but once there an outlet was soon found for my energies in the forming of a new band. It came about very simply. About a week after the Battalion had gone the Band-President came over to the band-room where I was practising the boys and asked if I couldn't rake up a band out of those who were left behind. I said I would try with the boys and the few men who could assist. The instruments were rearranged and in a fortnight's time, to everybody's surprise, they played to Church, and with great success. A few days later the same officer came over again and asked if it was possible for us to play a few tunes at the Officers' Mess. "Anything would do," he said. This we did, and thus the new band was born. We even started the drums again, and they made a very good show, but of course it was uphill work, especially when we sent out a draft in which were included some of my best musicians. The 3rd (Militia) Battalion arrived from Alnwick on the 13th December and stayed till the 10th February, 1900, when they went on to Malta. During their stay in Portsmouth their band and ours amalgamated and did some good service. It made my boys more sure of themselves,

(To be continued.)

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1812 IN THE PENINSULA.

(*Continued from page 34.*)

THE SIEGE OF BADAJOS.

The opportunity to besiege Badajos, for which Lord Wellington had been waiting, came with the spring floods of the rivers. These floods served a threefold purpose, for they would prevent an incursion of the French into Northern Portugal in the neighbourhood of Ciudad Rodrigo during the absence of the bulk of the allied troops at Badajos; would enable the Allies to march south unmolested and finally, the rains which caused the floods would, by making the last state of the Spanish roads worse than the first, prevent the assembly or the junction of French troops in the vicinity of Badajos either to cover or to succour the fortress. [1]

The second week in March, 1812, about the 6th of the month, had been fixed on for the investment of Badajos, but the usual delays and difficulties about transport intervened although preparations for this move were begun as far back as December, 1811. Matters were not improved by the attitude of the British admiral at Lisbon, who, when asked to supply some guns for the battering train, supplied guns taken from Russian ships whose bore was too large for the English shot. [2] This and the incurable indifference of the Portuguese to all matters concerning transport so delayed the investment that it took place during the violent equinoctial rains which added greatly to the difficulties. By the 5th March, however, the British Army was well on the way to Badajos, the defences of which had been greatly strengthened since the last fruitless attempt on it by the British. The exposed bastions had been mined, the place was well provisioned and was garrisoned by some 5,000 men. [3] The 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment continued to form part of General Picton's 3rd Division and, having marched from the neighbourhood of Ciudad Rodrigo to the Alemtejo, took up its position in the investing force.

On the 15th March pontoons were laid over the Guadiana and on the 16th, 15,000 British troops of the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and Light Divisions—the 5th Division remaining in reserve—and a Portuguese Brigade invested Badajos; on the night of the 17th March ground was broken against the fortress and this was regarded as a good omen, for "the soldiers swear we shall succeed because we invested on St. Patrick's Eve and broke ground on St. Patrick's Day." [4] This night was unusually dark, a high wind was blowing and rain fell heavily, thus favouring the operations of the besiegers who, inured to fatigue and knowing the necessity for rapid work exerted themselves to the utmost. The prevailing weather conditions deadened the sound of their picks and when dawn broke the enemy observed with surprise that the first parallel was opened without their having fired a shot against it. But the weather, once more, was against the British troops; the siege had hardly begun ere rain set in and continued almost without intermission for a fortnight, raising the river to such a height as to sink the pontoons. [5] Moreover a smaller force was employed than at Ciudad Rodrigo, the scale of operations was much larger and as a consequence the work entailed on the besieging force was much harder; in fact every man had to be actually in the trenches six hours every day and the same time every night "which with the time required to march to and from them through fields more than ankle deep in stiff mud never left us more than eight hours out of the twenty-four in camp and we were never dry the whole time." [6]

During the greater part of the siege the trenches were half full of water and the progress of the working parties was greatly delayed for the earth gave way and filled up in a few minutes the labour of as many hours. [7] But the difficulties of the siege were not confined solely to the working parties. Owing, of course, to want of transport, or rather to its absence from the spot where it was required, for there was plenty of transport in the country though the Portuguese Government would not supply it, ammunition for the batteries was none too plentiful and was only brought to the batteries by a method not usually employed in civilised warfare. Kincaid tells us that "our batteries were supplied with ammunition by the Portuguese Militia, from Elvas, a string of whom used to arrive every day reaching nearly from one place to the other (twelve miles), each man carrying a 24lb. shot and cursing all the way and back again." [8] But in spite of these difficulties the siege was carried on, though the sinking of the pontoon bridge with the consequence that the provisions for the army could not be brought over and the guns and ammunition remained on the other bank, nearly caused it to be raised. In a few days, however, the river subsided, another flying bridge was constructed and communication restored for the rest of the siege.

On the 19th March secret intelligence was received that the enemy intended to make a sortie, and the guards of the trenches were doubled. At one o'clock some fourteen hundred French dashed suddenly from the place, drove the working parties before them and began to demolish the parallel. Some French cavalry, by a trick, even penetrated to the engineers' park, which was a thousand yards in rear of the trenches, and there cut down a few men. But help was soon at hand and the parallel was re-occupied before much damage was done. The British suffered some hundred and fifty casualties and lost several hundred entrenching tools, for each of which the Governor of Badajos had offered a high price. Not that the French set any value on British entrenching tools. Napier tells us that at Ciudad Rodrigo "the worst obstacle was caused by the disgraceful badness of the cutting tools furnished from the storekeeper-general's office in England, the profits of the contractor seemed to be the only thing respected; the engineers eagerly sought for French implements, because those provided by England were useless," but the French hoped, no doubt, to delay the siege by this means.

On the night of the 24th March 500 men of the 3rd Division were ordered to storm the Picurina redoubt, an outwork of the fortress, much stronger than it appeared to be, with a rampart 14ft. high from the bottom of the ditch and garrisoned by 200 men, each of whom had two muskets, while live shells were placed on the top of the rampart ready to be pushed over. [9] These 500 men were taken from the 77th Regiment belonging to the Brigade in which the 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment was serving, and the 74th Regiment, and they carried out the assault in the now customary dashing manner. An hour's strenuous fighting involving a loss to the stormers of four officers and fifty men killed and fifteen officers and 250 men wounded [10] resulted in the capture of the redoubt which was promptly occupied by three battalions in reserve, of whom probably the 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment were part. Daylight, however, brought such a heavy fire from the town on the captured redoubt as to render it untenable by the Allies. The loss of this redoubt, though serious to the French, did not affect the vigour or the keenness of their resistance; all sorts of methods were resorted to in order to delay the advance of the besiegers, and on one occasion a man of the garrison, creeping out just before the working parties arrived, moved the tracing tape which marked the direction of the sap and brought it into the line of fire from the castle of Badajos. The British sustained some loss before the mistake was discovered. [11] But vigorously as the Allies pressed the siege, their commander was not altogether free from anxiety. Information reached him at the end of this month that the French forces were collecting for the relief of the fortress and on the 30th the 5th Division were brought across the river as a reserve to the covering army.

(*To be continued*).

1 Napier.
2 Napier.
3 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
4 Letter in Supplementary Despatches.
5 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
6 "Adventures in the Rifle Brigade." Kincaid.
7 Mem. Sir T. Picton. Robinson.
8 "Adventures in the Rifle Brigade." Kincaid.
9 Napier.
10 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
11 Napier.

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER FOR THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo fata vocant."

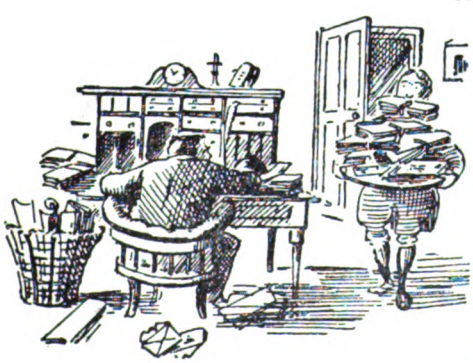
No. 352.] **Tuesday, 30th April, 1912.** **[Vol. XXX.**

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
The Editor's Corner	47	Editorial Notes	56
Our Contemporaries	47	Letter to the Editor	57
Subscriptions Received	47	The Real St. George	58
Births	47	English Soldiers to "Wear the Rose"	59
Deaths	48	Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day	59
Extracts from *London Gazette*...	48	Memorial Service	59
1st Battalion Notes	48	Forty Years' Service with the Fifth Fusiliers (*to be continued*)	60
2nd Battalion Notes	50	An American Nigger's Letter ...	61
2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes	53	1812 in the Peninsula (*to be continued*)	61
2nd Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes	54	The Digest of Service (*continued from December, 1911*)	Supplement
Depôt Notes	54	Advertisements i. to viii. and Cover	
4th Batalion Notes	55		
5th Battalion Notes...	55		
6th Battalion Notes...	56		
7th Battalion Notes...	56		

THE EDITOR'S CORNER.

26, HANS CRESCENT,
LONDON, S.W.,
30th April, 1912.



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All communications to be sent direct to the Editor.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following papers:—

"The Army Service Corps Journal"
"Military Mail"
"The Queen's Own Gazette"
"The Globe and Laurel"
"The Green Howards' Gazette"
"The Naval and Military Record"
"The XXX."
"The R.M.A. Magazine"
"The Aldershot News"
"The Antelope"
"The Tiger and the Rose"
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"The Hampshire Regimental Journal"
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"The Snapper"
"The Regiment"
"The 79th News"
"The Essex Regiment Gazette"
"The Argyllshire Highlanders Regimental News"
"The London Scottish Gazette"
"The Household Brigade Magazine"
"H.L.I. Chronicle"
"The Sapper"
"The Journal of the Royal Artillery"
"The China Dragon"
"The XI. Hussar Journal"
"The 6th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers' Magazine"
"The Suffolk Regimental Gazette"
"The Green Tiger"
"The Acorn"
"The White Lancer"
"The Ranger"
"The Leinsters' Magazine"
"The Dragon"
"The Lillywhites Gazette"
"The Thin Red Line"

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions and payments for *Gazettes* from:—

Sergt.-Instr. Robinson ...	to 31/ 3/12	Mr. G. Atkins	to 31/12/12
Lieut.-Col. Macdonald ...	,, 30/11/12	Mrs. Vincent	,, 31/12/12
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Captain Athill	,, 31/12/12	P.M.C., 1st Battalion, Officers' subscriptions and Bound Vols.	
Captain Sarel	,, 31/12/12		
Mr. R. Richardson ...	,, 31/12/12	Mr. J. Dalzell, January Advertisements	
Mrs. Forsyth	,, 31/12/12		

BIRTHS.

LE GALLAIS.—On the 23rd ult., at Bel Royal, Jersey, the wife of Captain A. G. Le Gallais, of a daughter.

MOORE.—On the 19th ult., at Sheffield, the wife of No. 8664 Sergeant G. Moore, of a son.

SAUNDERS.—On the 20th December, 1911, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the wife of No. 9386 Drummer J. Saunders, Permanent Staff, 3rd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, of a son.

WOOLL.—On the 6th February, at Deolali, India, the wife of No. 3756 Sergeant-Major Wooll, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, of a son.

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DEATHS.

BELCHAMBER.—On Good Friday, 5th inst., at Small Heath, Birmingham, Helen, the wife of Sergeant Belchamber, late 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers.

BRANNEN.—On the 23rd ult., at Mhow, India, No. 2469 Private C. Brannen, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers.

GIBSON.—On the 22nd inst., at Hexham, Major John Pattison Gibson, late 1st Volunteer Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, aged 74 years.

TINGLE.—On the 5th inst., at Hastings, Mary Ann, the wife of William Tingle, late Sergeant, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, aged 88 years.

EXTRACTS FROM *The London Gazette*:—

THE NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain S. C. Birch is placed temporarily on the half-pay list on account of ill-health (dated 12th March, 1912).

4TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain F. Robinson from the T.F. Reserve to be Captain (dated 27th March, 1912).

5TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—The following Officers to be Lieutenants:—Second-Lieutenants F. D. Todd (dated 10th January, 1912); P. D. Forrett (dated 11th January, 1912).

1st Battalion Notes.

MHOW,
27th March, 1912.

THE market value of any article is regulated by the laws of supply and demand. One has frequently heard a superior quality thirst valued by its proud possessor at nothing less than £5. The supply of this article in Mhow so far exceeds the demand, that one might hawk it all round cantonments without being offered 2d. for it. Apart from this disadvantage we have had little to complain of about the place till to-day, when a gale has sprung up which renders life scarcely worth living. We are told that it is likely to continue for two months till the rains come on, but trust that our informant may prove a false prophet.

Lieutenant Watkin opened the leave season on the 24th of last month and has since been followed home by Major Fishbourne and Lieutenant Stephen. Lieutenants Selby and Blackett Ord have gone on two months' leave to shoot tigers, others are going on leave to England and in the country, and we shall shortly be reduced to hot weather strength.

Pig sticking from Mhow is unfortunately not of the best. The pig are difficult to get out into the open and the country is so bad to ride over that the sport is not worth the risk of sacrificing a valuable horse or pony to it. Captain Cruddas and Lieutenant Ward have been out twice from Mhow, and Captain Gatehouse from Indore is an enthusiastic supporter of the sport. Captain Cruddas got his spear home at his first attempt.

The shortage of rain in the past year is responsible for having made the Polo ground here so thick in dust, that the game is at present played under very adverse circumstances. In fact, to ride hard in the wake of another player means being half choked and blinded with dust and running grave danger of collision. The ground, however, though a trifle slow, is very true. A scheme is on foot to lay water on it and we hope to have a first-class ground in a few weeks.

This month sees the departure of the last two of our Indian Army Attachés. We have passed some sixteen of these young officers to the Indian Army during the last four years. Situated as we are, we shall probably not be again associated for many years with the "W. B." the responsibility for whose training was professed by our late Commanding Officer to bear so heavily on his shoulders. May they long remember the regiment which fostered them in the infancy of a career in which we wish them every success.

The following Appointments have been made:—

To be paid Lance-Corporal:—

No. 1247 Lance-Corporal E. Johnson — from 29/3/12

To be Bandsman:—

No. 2572 Private E. Winfield — from 15/3/12

No. 7858 Sergeant G. Hills re-engaged at Mhow for the Northumberland Fusiliers to complete 21 years' service on the 30th inst.

No. 8016 Sergeant H. Brooks is transferred to the Indian Unattached List for employment as a clerk in the Corps of Military Staff Clerks, with effect from the 1st February, 1912.

Good Conduct Badges have been awarded as under:—

No.	419	Private	Hayes	2	from 17/ 8/10
„	1527	„	Smith	2	„ 13/10/10
„	3088	„	Benge	2	„ 8/ 3/11
„	2546	„	B. Reeve	1	„ 26/ 4/11
„	1329	„	Carter	2	„ 27/ 5/11
„	942	„	Coles	2	„ 1/ 6/11
„	2743	„	Hall	1	„ 19/ 7/11
„	766	„	Holmes	2	„ 30/ 7/11
„	2761	Boy	Read	1	„ 20/ 9/11
„	2446	Private	Nicholson	1	„ 24/ 9/11
„	9950	„	Millway	2	„ 23/10/11
„	2202	„	Seymour	1	„ 8/11/11
„	780	„	Robinson	2	„ 13/11/11
„	2344	„	Pugh	1	„ 18/11/11
„	2368	„	J. Warman	1	„ 29/11/11
„	2228	„	McDonald	1	„ 6/12/11
„	876	„	Williams	2	„ 8/ 1/12
„	1395	„	Fairbairn	2	„ 22/ 1/12
„	2473	„	Todd	1	„ 19/ 2/12
„	2544	„	W. Brooks	1	„ 21/ 2/12
„	2628	„	Haulon	1	„ 21/ 2/12
„	1011	Lance-Corporal	Groves	2	„ 26/ 2/12
„	2063	Private	Sharpe	2	„ 27/ 2/12
„	2783	„	Gray	1	„ 28/ 2/12
„	2742	„	Prest	1	„ 7/ 3/12
„	1609	„	Carey	1	„ 9/ 3/12
„	6035	Lance-Corporal	Hobbs	3	„ 13/ 3/12

BOXING.

On the 6th March we sent a party of six men to Jubbulpore to compete in the Boxing Tournament of the

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2nd Battalion Royal Fusiliers. It consisted of Lance-Corporal Smith (F Company), Privates Coatsworth (B Company), Bradley and Thompson (E Company), Mortimer and Gatehouse (G Company). This lot did so well that they gained a special prize of a silver cup, being equal third with the Royal Irish Rifles who had entered fifty-one competitors. Private Mortimer won the Open Featherweight, Rs. 100, and a silver medal; Private Bradley, who was beaten in the final of the Welterweights, won Rs. 50.

VETERANS OF 45TH RATTRAYS SIKHS.
(*Photo by Major Yatman*).

The result of the fighting was as follows:—

OPEN FEATHERWEIGHTS.

Mortimer won his first two fights easily, but had a hard job in the third and fourth fights. In the finals he beat Private Adams of the Gordon Highlanders after an extra round.

OPEN WELTERWEIGHTS, 10st. 7lbs.

Private Bradley won his first two fights and got into the finals owing to Sergeant Arthur, of the Inniskilling Dragoons, scratching on account of an injured arm. In the finals Bradley met Private Sluy, Middlesex Regiment, late Light Weight Champion of India, and was knocked out in the first round by a punch on the solar plexus.

OPEN LIGHTWEIGHTS.

Lance-Corporal Smith won his first fight easily, knocking his man out in the third round. The second fight was a close thing, and in the fight after a very hard contest the referee awarded the fight to Sergeant Arthur, of the Inniskilling Dragoons.

NOVICES, 10st. 7lbs.

Private Thompson, after winning his first two fights was defeated by Private Worley, Middlesex Regiment, in his third contest after a stubborn fight.

NOVICES, 9st.

Private Coatsworth won his first two fights in good style, but lost his third on points to Private Plant of the Cheshire Regiment. Coatsworth shows marked improvement since he fought in the Regimental Novices at Deolali and should do well in future.

BANTAM WEIGHTS—OPEN FIGHT.

Private Gatehouse met Lance-Corporal McCartney in the first. Lance-Corporal McCartney is a very hard hitter, and after receiving a lot of punishment Gatehouse retired in the second round.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

Since leaving Deolali very little of interest has occurred in our Mess. On our arrival our members and their families were most hospitably entertained in our own lines

VISIT OF N.C.O.'S OF 45TH RATTRAYS SIKHS AT DELHI.
(*Photo by Major Yatman*).

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by the members of the Sergeants' Mess of the 14th Hussars.

We have had a football match with our friends of the 14th on our ground, and a return match on theirs, in both of which we were successful, notwithstanding that our opponents' team was chiefly composed of alleged "Internationals."

Tennis has found many fresh devotees since we arrived at Mhow, an incredible number of flannels and racquets having made their first appearance on this or any other court.

Sergeant Walsh left us somewhat unexpectedly on the 11th to take up the duties of Instructor on being posted to the 4th Battalion. His presence will be greatly missed, especially when we have our next long railway move.

The merits of Deolali and Mhow as stations are still being warmly discussed by the adherents of each. Champions of the former maintaining that it is a nicer place, has a better climate, and is not inconveniently situated from Bombay. Upholders of Mhow assert that the facilities for shooting more than compensate for the extra heat and the attractions held forth in favour of Deolali.

"OWED" TO DEOLALI.

Farewell, Deolali! Too brief our stay
Upon the spot thou claimest on the map!
Yet not so brief but *some* have borne away
Thy "Tap."

2nd Battalion Notes.

HILLSBOROUGH BARRACKS, SHEFFIELD,
22nd April, 1912.

THE most noticeable thing about the present month has been the lack of the usual smoke and dirt, owing to the Coal Strike.

Although the Strike has now been over for a fortnight, the atmosphere is only just beginning to return to its normal state of gloom.

A and G Companies completed Company Training at the end of last month, being inspected by Brigadier-General Congreve; E and F Companies have now commenced training.

The first musketry party, consisting of four Companies, a party of Recruits, the Band, Signallers and machine gun Section go to Totley on May 7th, according to the present programme. At the conclusion of the musketry course, E, F and G Companies are to proceed to Pontefract in relief of B, D and H Companies, who go to Sheffield.

On the 12th, C Company, under Captain Williams, proceeded to Fleetwood, A Company, under Brevet-Major Showbridge, returning to Sheffield.

The Regimental Point-to-Point, which was to have been held with the Badsworth, on the 11th inst., had to be cancelled on account of the Coal Strike. There were a large number of entries, and we were looking forward to a good race.

The Inter-Company Cross Country Race is to take place before the end of the month, over a course near Sheffield.

The Army Golf Meeting takes place at Hoylake on the 29th inst.; our team consists of Lieutenant Nicholls + 2, Lieutenant Brownlow one, Major Ainslie seven, and either Captain Girdwood eight, or Captain St. John eight.

Last year Lieutenant Nicholls was 2nd in the Army Championship; the team up to the present has never succeeded in getting further than the semi-final.

The following Football matches took place during the month:—

March 7th ... 5TH FUSILIERS v. SWALLOW NEST.

An easy win for us, 7—1. In the first half each of our forwards scored a goal.

March 25th ... 5TH FUSILIERS v. BEIGHTON.

A well contested match, the result being a win for us 2—1.

March 28th ... 5TH FUSILIERS v. VICKERS SPORTS.

Our opponents brought a weak team, the result being a win for us by a large margin. 6—0.

March 29th ... 5TH FUSILIERS v. SWALLOW NEST.

The visitors brought a very strong team, many of our players were stale from having played too many matches, both Inter-Company and Regimental. We were lucky to obtain a draw. 2—2.

The record of games for the Hatchard Cup is as follows:—

Played, 19; won, 12; lost, 5; drawn, 2; goals for, 51; goals against, 21. Points, 26.

This brought us into the fourth place, entitling us to play in the semi-finals for the Cup.

We were, however, disqualified from competing in these semi-finals, an objection being lodged against us by a local team that we had not completed all our matches.

We were unavoidably prevented from playing the matches in question, the team being confined to Barracks owing to the Coal Strike; and under the circumstances must consider ourselves as very unfortunate, as we stood a good chance of winning the Cup had we been allowed to compete in the semi-finals and final.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

The usual ceremony of Trooping the Colours took place before a large gathering of spectators, favoured by a brilliant sunny day.

The parade took place punctually at twelve o'clock, and everything went off without a hitch.

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Colonel Whitaker took the salute both in the march past and advance in review order.

Telegrams were received from the following during the course of the day :—General Carter, Colonels Sitwell, Money, Lambert, Cubitt, Robinson, Græme, Hale, Heard, Beamish, Kemeys-Tynte, Sturges, Kilgour, Armstrong, Riddell, Dashwood, Pollock, Darley, Lambton, Stewart; Majors Wood, Somervell, Buckley, Crispin, Morley, Buchanan, Caffin, Bett; Captains Douglas, Booth, Gathorne-Hardy, Wright, Lynch-Staunton, Bromfield, Young, Wild, Archer, Le Gallais, Bevan, Shafto, Gething, Sant, Athill, Braithwaite, Leslie, Larpent; Lieutenants Foljambe, Jackson, Carthew, Hervey Bathurst, Forsyth, Ritson, Westmacott; The 1st Battalion, The Depôt, 5th Fusiliers (Pontefract), The Editor of *St. George's Gazette*, General and Mrs. Bigge, Captain and Mrs. Girdwood, Captain and Mrs. St. John, Major, Mrs. and Master Malet. H.M.S. *St. George*, Captain and Mrs. Williams, Colonel Ritson and Officers 6th Battalion, Colonel Scott and Officers 7th Battalion, Colonel and Mrs. Cherry, Major and Mrs. Thomson, Captain and Mrs. Evans, St. George's Society, Major and Mrs. Burleigh Leach, Mr. Le Breton, K.C.

We were sorry that so few old officers of the Regiment were able to be present; we were glad to see Colonel Whitaker, Messrs. Nunnely, Sarel, McKellar Wix, Stephen and Watkin, of the 1st Battalion.

After the ceremony of Trooping the Colours, about 200 guests were entertained at luncheon by the officers, and the Sergeants' Ball took place the same evening.

The following have left the Service during the month :—

No. 6557 Lance-Corporal C. H. Fiddler, D Company.—Enlisted 10/4/00; discharged 9/4/12; service, 12 years; served in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions. Service abroad; West Indies, 84 days; South Africa, 4 years, 129 days; India, 2 years, 353 days.

Certificates of Education have been awarded as under :—

2nd Class :—

(dated Sheffield, 29/3/12)

No. 3259 Pte. W. Cavan — No. 3244 Pte. J. Innerd
„ 3207 „ F. Connor — „ 3248 „ W. Drummond
„ 3240 „ G. Hammond — „ 3243 Boy Obey
No. 3352 Boy T. Leaper

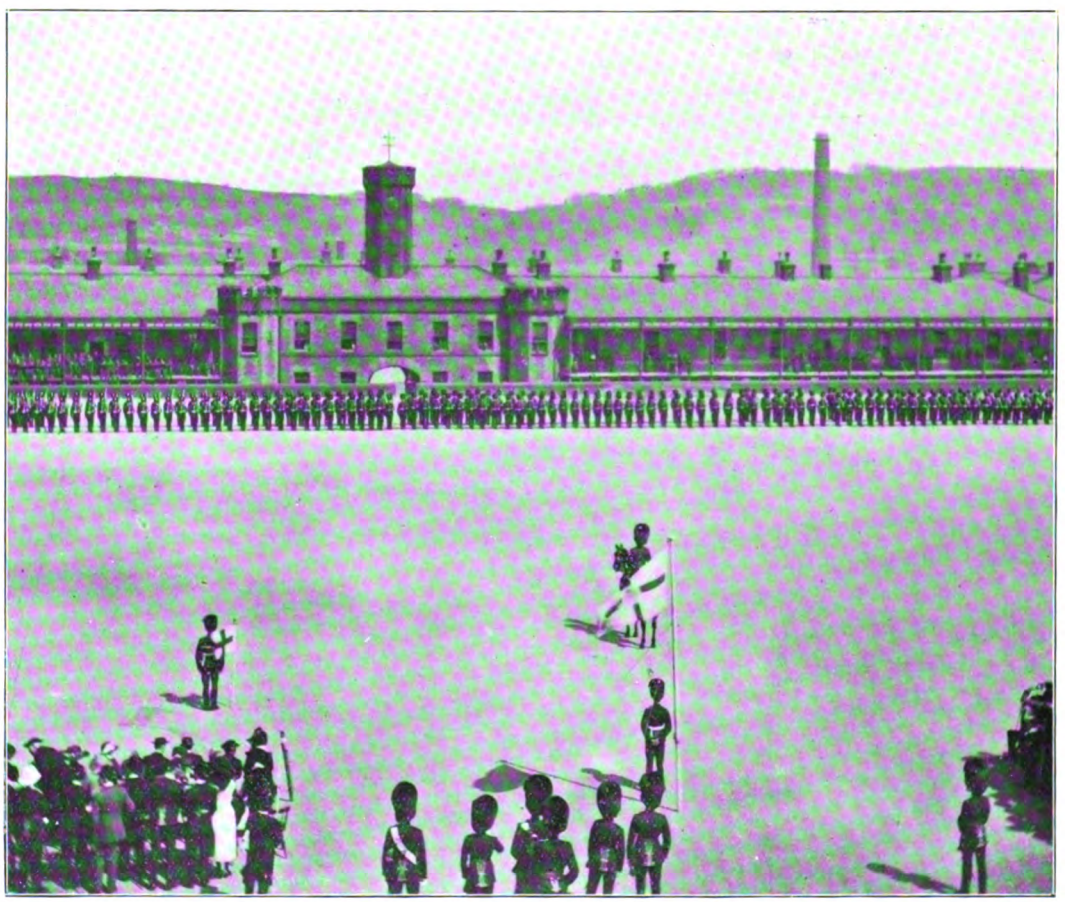
(dated York, 2/4/12)

No. 3011 Pte. T. Fairhurst — No. 2950 Pte. J. Selby
No. 2360 Private D. Harris

3rd Class :—

(dated Sheffield, 29/3/12)

No. 3351 Private R. Walton — No. 3359 Private F. Robinson



2ND BATTALION ON PARADE, ST. GEORGE'S DAY, 1912.
(Photo by Second-Lieutenant Radcliffe, 5th West Yorks Regiment).

No. 3219 Private R. Hunter — No. 3367 Private J. Burridge
„ 3365 „ T. Morris — „ 3332 „ G. Measham
„ 3211 „ J. Kerr — „ 3345 „ J. Wellgreen
No. 3339 Private W. Hewitt

(dated York, 2/4/12)

No. 2424 Private W. Thompson — No. 3119 Private M. Dunbar
No. 2586 Private H. Davidson

The undermentioned has been awarded an Instructor's Certificate for Physical Training, dated Aldershot, 20/3/12 :—

No. 2264 Lance-Corporal T. James

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The undermentioned have re-engaged to complete 21 years' service:—

No. 2525 Sergt.-Tailor A. Ireland from 1/4/12
„ 6654 Clr.-Sgt. W. Jenkins „ 9/4/12

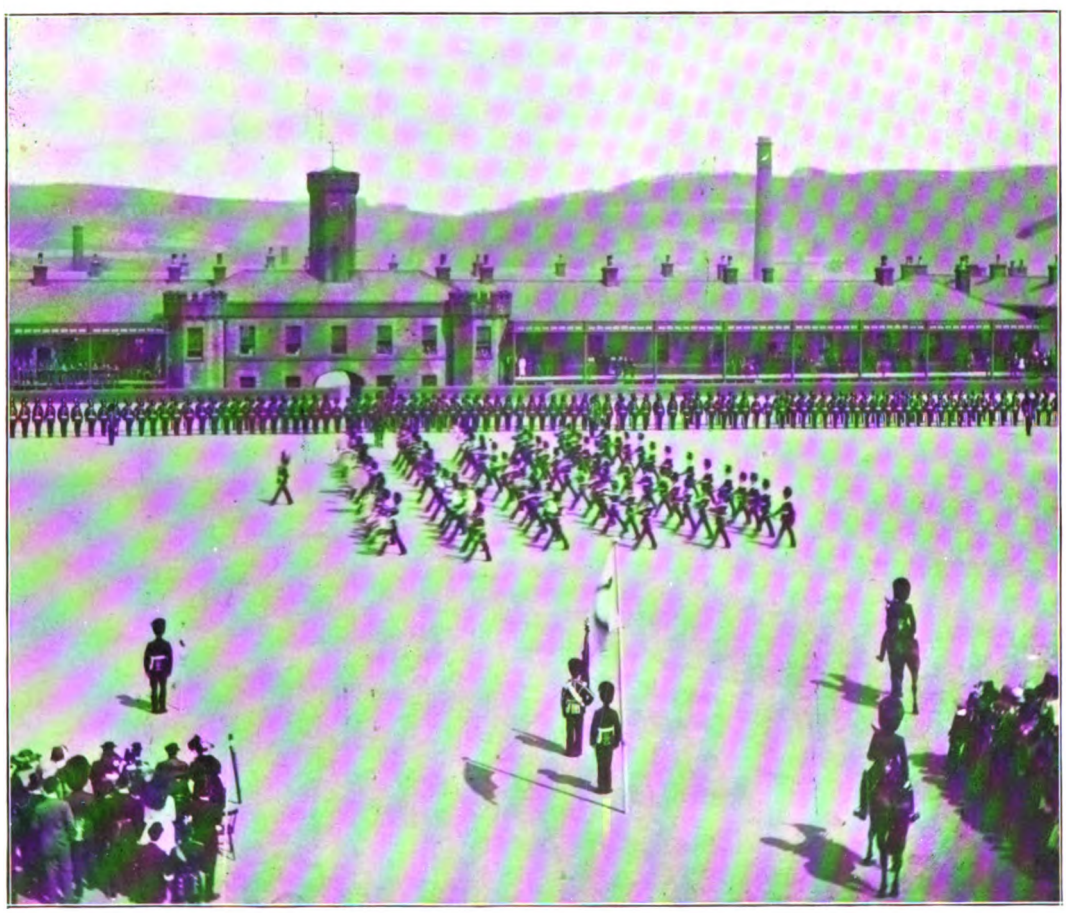
The following Promotions and Appointments have been made:—

To be paid Lance-Sergeants:—

No. 4859 Lce.-Sgt. C. Smith from 29/ 1/12
„ 5224 „ C. Norris „ 22/ 3/12

To be unpaid Lance-Sergeants:—

No. 1860 Cpl. J. Brown from 3/ 4/12
„ 1264 „ A. Boston „ 3/ 4/12



2ND BATTALION ON PARADE, ST. GEORGE'S DAY, 1912.
(Photo by Second-Lieutenant Radcliffe, 5th West Yorks Regiment).

To be Corporals:—

No. 9943 Lce.-Cpl. J. O'Hara from 26/3/12
„ 2272 „ H. Bigsby „ 30/3/12

To be paid Lance-Corporals:—

No. 2771 Lce.-Cpl. F. Dodds from 6/3/12
„ 3023 „ F. Honeyball „ 6/3/12
„ 2654 „ E. Lichfield „ 7/3/12
„ 2894 „ E. Abbott „ 22/3/12
„ 2115 „ J. Robinson „ 26/3/12
„ 2310 „ W. Key „ 30/3/12

To be unpaid Lance-Corporals:—

No. 2351 Private N. Warren from 28/ 3/12
„ 3027 „ R. Davison „ 28/ 3/12
No. 3035 Private A. Hornett from 28/ 3/12
„ 3034 „ N. Lockhart „ 28/ 3/12
„ 2545 „ E. Cunningham „ 30/ 3/12
„ 2994 „ G. Thynne „ 30/ 3/12
„ 3125 „ J. T. Black „ 30/ 3/12
„ 3098 „ W. Holmes „ 30/ 3/12

To be Drummer:—

No. 2646 Boy J. Davison from 20/10/11

The following Recruits have enlisted during the month:—

No. 3402 Pte. W. Murray
„ 3403 „ W. Lee
„ 3405 „ J. Byrne
No. 3415 Pte. W. McKain
„ 3416 „ J. Wright
„ 3417 „ T. Young
No. 3419 Pte. H. Guy.

No. 9273 Sergeant J. Fletcher qualified at the School of Musketry, Hythe, March, 1912.

No. 5792 Lance-Sergeant J. Cochran passed the Examination of Farriers, held at Aldershot, April, 1912.

BADAJOZ, 1812-1912.

A Special Parade was held on the 6th inst. to commemorate the centenary of the capture of Badajoz. In the absence of Colonel Enderby, Major Ainslie addressed the Battalion, giving a short account of the siege, and of the part the Regiment took in the assault. In the evening the officers held a dinner in commemoration.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

The Sergeants held their annual St. George's Ball in the Gymnasium, on the night of St. George's Day. The following officers and ladies were among the guests of the evening (of which there were 320):—Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Enderby, Miss Davis and Miss Leslie, Major Turner, Brevet-Major and Mrs. Shoubridge, Captain and Mrs. Hardman-Jones, Captains Hart and Auld, Lieutenant O. B. Foster, Lieutenant and Adjutant G. R. F. Leverson, Lieutenant and Mrs. Nicholls, Lieutenants Chevenix Trench and Rushbrooke, Lieutenant and Quartermaster, Mrs. and Misses Allan, Second-Lieutenants Molineux, Heyder, Mahon, Barkworth, Shipley, Mockhill and Radcliff,

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Major Winslow and Captain Bagshaw, R.A.M.C.; another popular and welcome visitor was Sergeant-Major G. Redhead, who is always to be found at the annual function, and we hope to see him on many future occasions.

The very excellent arrangements and decorations were most ably carried out by Colour-Sergeant Watson and his Committee. The Gymnasium was tastefully decorated with bunting and garlands of red and white roses, and was much admired by civil and military guests alike.

Earlier in the day we were pleased to have with us two well known old Fusiliers, Quartermaster-Sergeant Terrill and Colour-Sergeant Conlon, who along with many other old soldiers spent a few happy hours with the old Regiment, business pressure prevented their remaining for the Ball, but we shall be pleased to see them both, or either, at some future date.

Excellent music was rendered by the Band, under the bâton of Band-Sergeant Long.

2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes.

THE BARRACKS, PONTEFRACT,

24th April, 1912.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY passed off very quietly here as, of course, was necessarily the case. The Drums went into Sheffield a week before the ceremony of trooping the Colour so we could not even have a small parade here on our own account. The day was, of course, observed as a whole holiday, and being lovely weather everyone spent it in some sort of outdoor exercise. Some of us went into Headquarters to watch the ceremony and all thought the trooping as great a success as ever. The Band and Drums, as usual, were at their best and formed a very imposing spectacle whilst many remarked on the steadiness of the Parade. We could not have had a more sunny or pleasant day for the trooping though a slight wind at times lifted rather a dust. On these sort of occasions a water-cart generally invites rain so perhaps it was just as well not to have had one.

During the last fortnight we have been having the most perfect weather, at times almost an August sun; consequently the tennis courts here have been rapidly got into order and tennis "thrusters" are beginning to get their hands in at the game.

We were very glad that the Coal Strike ended just in time to allow many of us to go away for Easter, as we had been standing by for any emergency for three or four weeks but everything was very quiet here. One of the many evil results of the Strike was having entirely to abandon our Regimental Point-to-Point which we were having at the Badsworth Hunt Meeting which could not take place this year.

Some of us from here go to Totley on the 7th prox. with the first party for musketry whilst the remainder go in June. Our Brigadier, General Congreve, V.C., inspected B and D Companies on the 28th ult. on the termination of Company training, whilst H Company is still hard at work making daily excursions to either Stapleton or Pontefract Parks.

We must congratulate B Company on their prowess in games during the past year. Besides winning the Detachment Hockey and Football Leagues here they have carried off the Battalion Cricket Cup and Football Shield and ought to do well in the Marathon race which takes place at the end of this month.

Result of Morris Tube Competition held on the 22nd 23rd and 24th April:—

No.	Rank and Name.	Competition.	1st Tie.	Place.	Prize £ s. d.	
2125	Private Graham	37	19	1st	0 6 6	
2736	,, Limb	37	15	2nd	0 5 6	Marksmen and 1st Class Shots.
2363	,, Harris	36	17	3rd	0 4 6	
2425	,, Douglas	36	16	4th	0 3 0	
1352	,, Ellingham	36	13	5th	0 2 0	
2755	,, Mellors	35	—	6th	0 1 0	
1195	,, Stevens	37	—	1st	0 7 6	
2710	,, Minnithirpe	36	12	2nd	0 7 0	
2766	,, Whelan	36	7	3rd	0 6 6	
9188	,, Grayson	35	—	4th	0 6 0	
4128	,, Linderman	34	18	5th	0 5 9	
2424	,, Watson	34	18	6th	0 5 3	
2318	,, Lacey	34	12	7th	0 5 0	
2016	,, Hetherington	33	15	8th	0 4 6	2nd Class.
2806	,, Baker	33	12	9th	0 4 0	
2643	,, Boulton	33	4	10th	0 3 6	
1083	,, Rush	32	—	11th	0 3 0	
200	,, Allen	31	15	12th	0 2 6	
2880	,, Ardy	31	15	13th	0 2 0	
2715	,, Amoy	31	13	14th	0 1 6	
2301	,, Tyson	31	7	15th	0 1 0	
2838	,, Wheaton	34	—	1st	0 5 0	
2749	,, Taylor	29	—	2nd	0 4 0	3rd Class.
2913	,, George	27	—	3rd	0 3 0	
2883	,, Norman	38	—	1st	0 7 0	
3053	,, Burroughs	37	—	2nd	0 6 0	
3029	,, Smith	36	—	3rd	0 5 6	
2905	,, Parr	34	—	4th	0 5 0	Recruits not yet fired Table B.
2914	,, Ingram	33	12	5th	0 4 6	
2766	,, Lynn	33	11	6th	0 4 0	
2865	,, Hoare	32	16	7th	0 3 0	
2829	,, Walker	32	11	8th	0 2 6	
3146	,, Johnson	34	17	1st	0 6 0	
3171	,, Bennett	34	15	2nd	0 5 0	Recruits not yet fired Table A.
3182	,, Amer	33	14	3rd	0 4 0	
3090	,, Wheatley	33	12	4th	0 3 0	
3982	Clr.-Sgt. Thompson	35	—	1st	0 6 0	
7899	,, Maynard	35	—	2nd	0 5 0	Sergeants.
3881	Sergt. Eltringham	34	—	3rd	0 4 0	
2319	Lce.-Cpl. Geradine	37	16	1st	0 6 6	
7975	,, George	37	14	2nd	0 5 0	
9940	Corporal O'Hara	34	19	3rd	0 4 0	Corporals.
2721	Lce.-Cpl. Robson	34	16	4th	0 3 6	
2841	,, Atkins	34	5	5th	0 2 0	

We had two representatives from the FIFTH competing in the Castleford Harriers Three-and-a-Half Miles Road Race (Open) in Privates Leith and Forrest, both of B Company. The latter won the Battalion Championship in Sheffield in 1911, whilst the former is one of our best runners. The course lay in rough and hilly country and attracted a field of eighteen competitors, several of whom were highly fancied by their respective supporters. Forrest's fame had gone before him as he was penalised to the amount of twenty seconds which he soon made up after an excellent start. For more than half the distance he was content to lie seventh man, but by taking things coolly and running well when three-quarters of the distance had been covered he began to draw away from his field and finally won in

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the excellent time of 20 mins. 18 secs., beating the club champion by 200 yards. Private Leith ran well and finished strongly occupying fourth place. After the meeting, amid great enthusiasm, Private Forrest was presented with a handsome pair of bronze plaques.

2nd Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes.

THE HUTMENTS, FLEETWOOD,
25th April, 1912.

ON the 13th inst. C Company proudly marched out of Sheffield Barracks to the strains of music provided by the Band. Proudly, and justly so, for were we not shaking the dust of Sheffield from off our feet, if not for ever, at least for a while? And because we were led to the station and made instinctively to feel proud by the fine music produced for our benefit by the Band.

We left Sheffield about 8.30 a.m., and as A Company departed from Fleetwood about 10.30 a.m. we had not an opportunity of meeting old friends.

Since our arrival here the climatic conditions have been of the best, and we cannot help contrasting the atmosphere here with that at Sheffield, much to our advantage.

On St. George's Day the Detachment paraded at 12 noon and were inspected by Captain E. E. Williams, D.S.O., who afterwards spoke of St. George in the flesh. In the evening the Sergeants held a small dance, which proved to be most successful; but, so I am told, the success of the dance did not prevent their minds from wandering to the Ball at Sheffield, and all ranks felt sorry at not being present at the trooping of the Colours, the parade of all parades; the parade that makes a man's breast fill with pride; his thoughts overflow with happy recollections of the past, and what future St. George's Days may bring forth.

Depôt Notes.

THE BARRACKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
24th April, 1912.

ON Sunday, the 21st, a Parade Service was held at the Cathedral, which was attended both by the Depôt and the 6th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. Ritson, V.D. At the conclusion of the service the Dead March was played on the organ in honour of those who lost their lives on the *Titanic*. After this the old Colours of the 1st, 3rd and 4th Battalions had wreaths of red and white roses hung on them. The troops then marched to the War Memorial, were formed up round it, and two large laurel wreaths were laid on it to the memory of those connected with Northumberland who lost their lives during the South African war.

St. George's Day festivities were celebrated in the most glorious summer like weather.

In the afternoon we had Sports and several of the items were most exciting and vigorously contested, whilst "Hood and Good" (Corporals Morris and Moffit) with their fooling kept all amused. At the conclusion of the sports Mrs. Kershaw presented the prizes to the winners, who were then photographed. After this a move was made to the Gymnasium, where there was tea for the married families, the troops and their friends. In the evening dancing, combined with a musical programme, was kept up till 11 p.m.

Telegrams of good wishes were received from:—The 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 7th Battalions, Editor *St. George's Gazette*, The Royal Society of St. George, Colonels Lambton, Stewart, Riddell, Sturges; Majors Buchanan, Morley, Wood; Captains Douglas, Forsyth (Seaforth Highlanders).

Programme of the sports:—

100 Yards (open).- 1st, Lance-Sergeant Challoner; 2nd, Private Hall; 3rd, Private McIntosh.

High Jump.—1st, Colour-Sergeant-Major Arrigonie; 2nd, Private Povey; 3rd, Sergeant Rowden.

Boys' Race (10 to 14).—1st, G. Buckman; 2nd, J. Buckman; 3rd, J. Purcell.

Potatoe Race.—1st, Sergeant Rowden; 2nd, Drummer Routledge.

Quarter-Mile (open).—1st, Lance-Sergeant Challoner; 2nd, Private Hall; 3rd, Drummer Harmer.

Girls' Race (10 to 14).—1st, M. Hooper; 2nd, E. Easthope; 3rd, E. Driscoll.

Sack Race.—1st, Private Hume; 2nd, Private Kennard; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Dixon.

Inter-Company Relay Race (Recruits).—No. 1 Company Team.

Boys' Race (under 10).—1st, H. Cassells; 2nd, V. Rowden; 3rd, A. Buckman.

Mop Fighting.—1st, Sergeant Fenemore and Corporal Hustwayte; 2nd, Drummer Routledge and Private Ross.

Inter-Company Relay Race (Dutymen).—No. 1 Company Team.

Girls' Race (under 10).—1st, M. Holmes; 2nd, E. Ahronson; 3rd, V. Driscoll.

Old Soldiers' Handicap (120 Yards).—1st, Colour-Sergeant-Major Arrigonie; 2nd, Private Hall; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Dixon.

100 Yards (Recruits).—1st, Private McIntosh; 2nd Private Oldearn; 3rd, Private McHale.

Three-Legged Race.—1st, Privates Hall and Smith; 2nd, Lance-Sergeant Challoner and Private Oldearn.

Reveille Race.—1st, Private Quinn; 2nd, Drummer Harmer.

Quarter-Mile (Recruits).—1st, Private McIntosh; 2nd, Private Oldearn; 3rd, Private Williams.

One Mile (open).—1st, Private Foster; 2nd, Private Watmore; 3rd, Private Jobson.

We were very glad to see Mr. Stephen (on leave from the 1st Battalion) looking so fit and well, and we also take the opportunity of offering him our hearty congratulations on his engagement to be married.

No. 5781 Sergeant F. Lee was posted to the 2nd Battalion on the 6th inst.

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No. 5417 Sergeant J. Haddon was attached for a tour of duty from the 2nd Battalion from the 18th inst.

No. 258 Corporal W. Dresser qualified for the duties of Regimental Chiropodist at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the 31st ult.

No. 1077 Private H. Bendell was appointed unpaid Lance-Corporal, dated the 28th ult.

The undermentioned have been awarded Certificates of Education as stated, dated Newcastle-on-Tyne, the 2nd March, 1912:—

2nd Class:—

No. 3254 Pte. P. Kettlewell
„ 3263 „ E. Elsworth
No. 3297 Pte. J. McGeorge
„ 3311 „ W. Cox
No. 3289 Pte. W. Hutchinson

3rd Class:—

No. 3319 Pte. C. Rowston
„ 3348 „ R. Fraser
„ 3357 „ H. Oldfield
„ 3366 „ W. Harbach
„ 3376 „ C. Berry
„ 3389 „ H. Line
„ 8078 „ T. Dodgson
No. 8090 Pte. J. Craggs
„ 8083 „ H. Hume
„ 8102 „ J. Stobbs
„ 8110 „ J. Smith
„ 8111 „ J. Angus
„ 8118 „ L. Forster
„ 8120 „ J. Onion

FOOTBALL NOTES.

The finals for the knock-out competition between No. 1 Company, 5th Fusiliers and the 60th Battery, Royal Field Artillery, was played on the 18th inst., on the Newcastle United Ground, and resulted in a win for No. 1 Company by 4 goals to 2.

Dr. Randle (*goal*)
Cpl. Morris Cpl. Dresser
Pte. Wates Lce.-Sgt. Challoner Cpl. Mellors
Lce.-Cpl. Dixon Dr. McLeen Cpl. Towler Pte. Elsworth
Pte. Hall

The FIFTH proved the better team throughout. Sergeant Challoner at half-back continually broke up the attack of the Gunners' forwards. At back Corporal Morris was a tower of strength, and very safe and sure in his kicking. Of the forwards Private Hall and the right wing were in great form, and at times brilliant.

An "entrance" was charged, the proceeds of which are being devoted towards the repairing of the Garrison Recreation Ground.

At the conclusion of the match Mrs. Stellard presented the Shield to Lance-Sergeant Challoner, and congratulated him and his team on their victory.

4th Battalion Notes.

THE ARMOURY, HEXHAM,
23rd April, 1912.

WE regret to chronicle the death of Major J. P. Gibson, V.D., who for some years commanded the Hexham Company 1st V.B.N.F. Major Gibson had a considerable reputation as an antiquary and was a leading authority on the subject of the Roman Wall.

Church Parades were held at Hexham, Prudhoe and Haltwhistle on Sunday, the 21st inst. Red and white roses were worn on these parades as it was found impossible to arrange ceremonial parades on St. George's Day.

Territorial Force Efficiency Medals have been granted to the undermentioned Non-Commissioned Officers and Men:—

Colour-Sergeant A. Robson	E Company
Sergeant H. Dixon	E „
„ W. I. Watson	F „
Corporal R. Hall	E „
„ W. Ripley	D „
Lance-Corporal W. E. Leach	E „
Private J. S. Hogarth	E „
„ J. Turner	E „
„ H. Allcroft	E „

Sergeant-Major W. H. Wynnsford was discharged to pension on the 15th inst. on completion of 21 years' service. This non-commissioned officer has been Sergeant-Major of the Battalion for just over five years; he is in possession of the Queen's South African and Good Conduct Medals.

No. 4283 Colour-Sergeant G. Fewster has been appointed Acting-Sergeant-Major from the 16th inst.

5th Battalion Notes.

WALKER-ON-TYNE,
23rd April, 1912.

A REGIMENTAL Tour was held in the Morpeth district on the 31st ult., when some fourteen officers were present, and got through some good work on outposts and attack.

Recruits are coming in well at Headquarters and also at Gosforth and Wallsend.

The Headquarters Companies and Wallsend Detachment are to have a "march out" on Thursday, the 25th inst., and the Battalion is to turn out for a Church Parade at Wallsend on Sunday, the 28th inst.

The Staff-Sergeants and Sergeants are to hold their Annual St. George's Ball on Friday, the 26th inst.

Company Training commences on Monday, the 29th inst., when a good muster is expected.

The Officers are holding their Annual St. George's Dinner to-night.

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6th Battalion Notes.

ST. GEORGE'S DRILL HALL,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
25th April, 1912.

THE drill season is now in full swing, and on two nights each week we march out with our Drums. A bugle band has just been started in the Regiment and, from what we hear, is a great success.

St. George's Day was celebrated on Sunday with the usual ceremony, and after marching down to the Cathedral with Colours flying we placed a wreath on our South African War Memorial on our return.

About forty officers attended our St. George's Day Annual Dinner on the 23rd inst. Afterwards we went down to the Sergeants' Ball, which was most enjoyable.

In the Annual Billiard Match between the Sergeants of the Regiment and the Engineers the former won after a very close game.

7th Battalion Notes.

ALNWICK,
22nd April, 1912.

THE Battalion congratulates Colonel Riddell, Commanding the Brigade, on his marriage. Though not strictly a military wedding on both sides it may fairly be classed in that way, as Colonel Riddell's bride is daughter of the late Sir Henry Scott, whose public letter and donation was the origin of the Yeomanry movement during the Boer War.

We have lost by resignation Major the Hon. J. A. Joicey, who came to us from the 3rd Battalion at the time of the institution of the Territorial Force. Major Joicey commanded the Battalion detachment at the Coronation last year. As Mess President, and in other capacities, his departure will be felt.

We have also lost Lieutenant A. E. Mallet, who has left the district. He was transferred to the 7th on its formation from the Berwick Artillery.

Everyone regrets the illness of Captain Archer, who so soon after his appointment to the Adjutancy has had to undergo an operation for appendicitis. All are glad to hear he is progressing well; meantime his duties are being carried on by Lieutenant E. L. D. Forster, from the 2nd Battalion.

Lieutenant Darling has also been granted six months' leave owing to illness.

Week-end Camps at Whitsuntide are to be held at Morpeth for A, B and E Companies, Belford for C Company, and Moorlaws for D Company. G and H are going out, but their venue is not yet fixed.

As is usual St. George's Day is observed by Church Parades on the nearest Sunday. A Company attended St. Mary's Parish Church, Morpeth. The Battalion Band was present under Bandmaster Richard Taylor. There was a large attendance, and the officers present were Major J. J. Gillespie and Lieutenant J. E. N. Thompson. In addition to the Fusiliers there was also present a large contingent of the Morpeth Grammar School Cadet Corps, which is attached to the 7th Battalion. The Mayor and Corporation of Morpeth also attended the Parade.

D (Headquarters) Company attended the Parish Church, Alnwick, under the command of Captain Jackson, the other officers present being Major Reavell, Lieutenant and Acting Adjutant E. L. D. Forster and Lieutenant and Quartermaster R. Neville. The sermon by Canon Mangin was very much to the point. On assembling outside the Church a Territorial Force Efficiency Medal was presented to Lance-Sergeant L. Goodfellow, by Major Reavell, in the absence of the Commanding Officer. We were glad to see round about in mufti Captain Rickman and other past and present representatives of the FIFTH.

The Berwick Detachment (G and H Companies) paraded at Berwick Parish Church under Captain A. H. M. Weddell, who was accompanied by Lieutenant H. R. Smail. Hymns of an appropriate nature were sung, including the special hymn for St. George's Day. Captain Weddell read the lessons. The sermon was preached by the Chaplain of the Battalion (Ven. Archdeacon Hodgson) from the text "Be strong and of good courage." The preacher gave an eloquent discourse, referring to the magnificent example of courage displayed in the *Titanic* disaster. At the close the organist played the Dead March in Saul in memory of the victims, the congregation reverently standing.

D (Alnwick) Company held a successful Company Dance, and G and H (Berwick) Companies a Sergeants' Dance on St. George's Day.

Editorial Notes.

26, HANS CRESCENT,
LONDON, S.W.
25th April, 1912.

THE Editor feels that an apology is due to subscribers and an explanation for announcing yet another change of address of the "Office" of the *St. George's Gazette*. The "Office" is not a travelling office in the sense that President Kruger's Government was a travelling government in the autumn of 1900; thanks to the generosity of the Officers of the 1st and 2nd Batta-

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Our Sergeant-Major's a Subaltern, our Captain's a Fusilier,
Our Adjutant's late of Somebody's 'Orse, an' a Melbourne auctioneer,
But you couldn't spot us at 'arf a mile from the crackest caval-ry.
They used to talk about Lancers once,
Hussars, Dragoons, an' Lancers once,
'Elmets, pistols, an' carbines once,
But now we are M.I.

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lions there is no one after the *Gazette*. The simple explanation is that the Editor having hunted in vain far and wide for a country house has come to anchor temporarily in London. All correspondence therefore, except that relating to advertisements, should be sent to 26, Hans Crescent, London, S.W.

The Naval and Military Emigration League have sent us their interim report dealing with the work of the League in the last eight months, during which period 173 men emigrated under the auspices of the League, the great majority going to Canada and Australia. The object of this organization, of which H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught is Patron and Earl Roberts President, is to find openings in His Majesty's Dominions Overseas for ex-Service men who must be of good character and physique and must show aptitude for Colonial life and be unable to obtain permanent employment at home.

The total number (exclusive of wives and families) sent out since the formation of the League some two years ago is nearly 500, and all of them have obtained employment directly or indirectly through the Committees and representatives appointed by the League in the various countries. So successful has been the work that many letters have been received from emigrants thanking the League and the Committees and representatives for the services they have rendered.

For the assistance of this good work further funds are needed; during the past eight months the number of inquiries dealt with by correspondence and interviews has averaged over 200 per week, or from 6,000 to 7,000 in all, and though many of the inquiries come from men in urgent need of help, need which the late Coal Strike has not tended to alleviate, the League for want of funds is unable to make the necessary advances of passage money.

There are at this moment excellent openings for large numbers of ex-Service men in our oversea Dominions, and special facilities will be given by the various Governments to carefully selected men sent out by the Naval and Military Emigration League. From Australia comes an application for 300 single men towards whose passages £6 each will be provided from a fund raised in Sydney, and Canada asks for 150 time-expired men whose fares will be paid by the Dominion Government. Employment for these men has been guaranteed at current rates of wages and pay, but to enable the League to avail itself of the Australian offer funds must be provided in order, in some cases, to advance the balance of fare (£10) and landing money (£2 5s.).

The League, however, does not confine its work only to the United Kingdom; their representative in India, the Rev. H. C. Martin, Secretary of the R.A.T.A., Simla, reports that the way is now rendered more easy for time-expired men, desiring to emigrate, to secure free passages to Australia.

Only men of good character and physique who are willing and able to work are sent out under the auspices of the League, and all monies advanced towards the emigration of men in need of assistance are required to be repaid by arrangement with the oversea representatives of the League.

In drawing attention to and in heartily approving the work of this League the Editor makes no apology. There are openings in the Colonies for able-bodied men who are willing to work which are undreamt of in this country, and proof that ex-Service men are appreciated in these growing countries is given by the applications for them received from Australia and Canada. But the work it is doing entails heavy expense and the League therefore appeals for financial help to carry on its good work in assisting men of British blood to settle in our Colonies rather than in foreign countries; it does not advocate indiscriminate emigration but only advises it in the case of men who are unable to find suitable employment at home.

The offices of the League are at Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W., and the Secretary is E. T. Scammell, Esq., F.R.G.S.

The Editor offers his hearty congratulations to Mr. H. C. Stephen on his engagement to be married and wishes him every happiness and prosperity.

Orders for copies of the History of the 2nd Battalion are acknowledged with many thanks from Major Morley, Major Leather and Mrs. Thistlethwayte.

The following paragraph is taken from *The Morning Post*:—

"The marriage of Colonel J. F. Riddell, late 5th Fusiliers, with Miss Margaret Christabel Scott, daughter of the late Sir Henry Scott and of Lady Scott, of Eilanreach, Inverness-shire, and of Hipsburn, Northumberland, took place on Wednesday afternoon, the 17th April, at St. Mary Abbot's Church, Kensington. The Rev. Prebendary Pennefather officiated and the best man was Colonel the Hon. C. Lambton, late 5th Fusiliers. The bride, who was given away by her mother, wore a robe of silver brocade, and carried a sheaf of lilies and wore a diamond and pearl pendant, the gift of the bridegroom. She was attended by two little girls as train-bearers, Miss Hetty Hebeler, niece of the bride, and Miss Iris Selby Bigge. Owing to the recent death of Sir Henry Scott no reception took place after the ceremony.

Subscribers are requested to forward to the *Gazette* Office any change of address and, thereby, save considerable trouble, for every month some *Gazettes* are returned to the printers owing to the addressee having gone away; they are also reminded that all subscriptions are payable in advance.

Letter to the Editor.

8, Higham Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne,
21st April, 1912.

Dear Sir,—The Executive Committee Northumberland Fusiliers Aid Society beg to acknowledge with thanks the following additional subscriptions for 1912:—

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	£	s.	d.
Previously acknowledged	71	2	0
Mrs. F. A. Forsyth	2	2	0
Captain W. Enderby	1	1	0
In Memoriam (A.W.C.B.)	3	3	0
Mr. and Mrs. Carlisle	5	5	0
Colonel A. E. Ross	1	0	0
Lieutenant R. M. St. J. Booth	1	0	0
Total	£84	13	0

Yours truly,

JAS. THOMSON, Major,
Secretary.

THE REAL ST. GEORGE.

(A paper read before the Melbourne Branch of the Royal Society of St. George by the Rev. F. G. Masters, M.A.)

I SUPPOSE my subject is entitled the real St. George because it is well known that there has been an attempt to foist a sham one on the English people. Gibbon, in his history of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, tells with great literary skill the story of an inhuman parasite, without conscience or honour, who was quite properly lynched in the year 361. Gibbon holds this Cappadocian creature to be the original of our St. George, quite forgetful of the fact that at least a generation before, churches had been dedicated to the memory of the hero of whom I have been bidden briefly to discourse. Professor Bury, the latest editor of the "Decline and Fall," confesses "Gibbon's theory, which identifies St. George with George of Cappadocia, has nothing to be said for it."

Who then was St. George? And why a white horse, a dragon and a red cross? And how came he to be patron saint of England?

GEORGE OF LYDDA.

The story comes into view about the year 300 A.D. There was proceeding the last and severest persecution endured by the Christians under the Empire. Diocletian was the Emperor and his edicts were posted in all the important military stations in the Empire. By these edicts it was commanded that all Christian churches were to be destroyed, all Christian books were to be burned, all clergymen were to be imprisoned, and other Christian men were to lose their property and civil rights.

One of these military stations was at Lydda in Palestine, and one of the young Roman officers there was a Christian of gentle birth named George. George tore down the Emperor's edict, and for this was put to death, on April 23rd, 303. This is all that is fact about St. George, and even in this little the place is doubtful.

THE HALO.

It was the last of the martyrdoms. Two years afterwards Diocletian abdicated. Out of the contest for supremacy among his generals Constantine shortly emerged, a Christian emperor, who made Christianity the religion of the Empire. In that final struggle of religions the deed of the young Christian knight was the outstanding incident. He was reckoned a saint, and to enshrine his remains a church was built by Constantine at Lydda, and dedicated to his memory. For he stood as the symbol of the triumph of Christianity over heathenism.

Such a hero, youthful, soldierly, courageous, true to conscience, and victorious by self-sacrifice, was just the one to touch the imagination of healthy manhood. As he became popular, his story became idealised, legends of all kinds clustered round his name, and the lore of other peoples became attached to his story. Out of all the tales of miracle and adventure connected with him, I select two only. One comes from Greek and the other from Persian legend.

THE DRAGON.

So near to Lydda stands the port of Joppa. Now Joppa is the home of the Greek story of Perseus and Andromeda, the knight who rescued the perishing princess from the devouring dragon. In itself it is a nature story. Palestine is an inhospitable coast. The cruel crawling foam was the dragon which had devoured many a victim on the rocks, and the Perseus stood for any engineer who could build a breakwater. By a very easy road less than twelve miles long George of Lydda got credited with the prowess of the hero of Joppa, and the dragon of the latter soon became attached to St. George. He is now the symbol not merely of the triumph of true religion, but also of man's mastery over the forces of nature.

THE WHITE HORSE.

We now come to ask about the White Horse. The dragon being a sea monster, it is not a horse that its conqueror would need. But as St. George gets his dragon from the Greek myth of Perseus, he gets a horse from another widespread myth that had its origin in Persia, but became popular among the Roman soldiers in Syria and Palestine. Mithra was the lord of light, *i.e.*, the sun, and the horse he rode was naturally white. The monster he defeated was depicted as a bull, and when his spear wounded the bull there came out not blood but ears of wheat. The story symbolised the rise of agriculture, the sun's rays piercing the earth and crops springing up. So the name Mithra itself means the conqueror of the fields. Now the Greek word George also means the husbandman, the tiller of the fields. Easily therefore did the Mithraic legend pass over into the Georgian story and provide the sainted military officer with his white steed. So St. George came also to symbolise the advance of a settled civilisation, or order out of chaos.

THE RED CROSS.

With regard to St. George's shield, the red cross on a white field, I cannot find any special connection of this with the saint until many centuries afterwards. The Christian soldiers of Constantine wore a red cross on the shoulder of their white cloaks. In the Bayeux Tapestry banners with a red cross are depicted as sent by the Pope to William I., and under it he won the Battle of Hastings. Peter the Hermit used a red cross as the token for the Crusades. It was therefore a badge in common use, quite independently of St. George.

But on one of these crusades King Richard I. was engaged. While he was in Palestine he camped for a while at Lydda, was impressed by this story of the soldier saint, and rebuilt St. George's Church there. St. George for Merrie England became his battle-cry, and so the veneration of him was brought to England. In 1222 the Council of Oxford ordered his feast to be kept as a national festival, and in the reign of Edward III., after the Battle of Cressy, he was made the new patron saint of the country that already possessed the red cross on the white field.

THE PATRON SAINT.

And finally, why was the patron saint changed? It was because the old St. Edward, the king who was but a devout monk, no longer represented the virility and progressiveness of the developing nation. A national saint has to represent the national type. That is his significance. Mediæval England summed up the qualities she admired in her choice of St. George —courage, devotion, loyalty, faith. These are the internal qualities of him of whom we take our last look as he stands in Donatello's statue in a church in Florence, firm and upright in conscious possession of manly power. Well proportioned and active, clad in the armour of a Roman officer with the Roman toga loosely tied about his throat and hanging over his left arm, leaving his right untrammelled for action. His big shield stands with its point on the ground and his left hand holds it upright. In his right he holds no weapon of offence, for he seeks no quarrel. His head is firmly poised on a powerful neck, and his eyes look out clear and pure and confident upon the world. Youth, strength, beauty, activity, dignity, repose! It is no wonder that the English rejoice to have such a one as a patron saint, for truly he is the symbol of the best characteristics of the race.

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ENGLISH SOLDIERS TO "WEAR THE ROSE."

(*From "The English Race," The Journal of the Royal Society of St. George*).

AT a recent meeting of the Council of the Parent Society it was resolved to take immediate steps with the object of bringing about the wearing of the national emblem by English soldiers on St. George's Day, and a Committee of the following Members of Council was thereupon constituted:—Colonel Sir Thomas Hungerford Holdich, C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.I.E., Hon. D.Sc. (Cantab.), (H.V.-P.), Chairman; Colonel Sir Augustus C. FitzGeorge, C.B., K.C.V.O. (H.V.-P.); Colonel Harry Finn, C.B.; with Admiral the Hon. Sir Edmund R. Fremantle, G.C.B., C.M.G. (H.V.-P.), representing the Senior Service. Howard Ruff (Hon. Secretary of the Society) was appointed to act in a similar capacity.

The names of these gentlemen are so widely known that it is unnecessary to recapitulate their services and qualifications, and full early to anticipate the outcome of their deliberations, but our readers may rest assured that the subject will be thoroughly gone into.

For years past this matter has engaged the attention of our Society. In the Annual Report and Year-Book for 1900, and on many subsequent occasions, we have urged the wisdom and justice of encouraging the national sentiment of our English soldiers. We failed to see why Irish soldiers should be accorded the privilege of wearing their national emblem, or why Scotch soldiers should be attired in a national or distinctive uniform, while the racialism of English soldiers, approximately 80 per cent. of the whole Army, should be flouted and ignored.

It may be that the courage and fidelity of English soldiers needed no stimulus, no extraneous adjunct, and so the anomaly has continued. We believe, however, that in these present days, when the regiment is no longer the *home* of the soldier as was once the case, everything possible should be done to compensate for the loss of that *esprit de corps* and indispensable morale which they must necessarily be deficient under our present short-service system.

We are not aware, neither do we believe, that the Authorities will oppose our proposals, and are confident that the only regiment which wears the rose on St. George's Day, the Northumberland Fusiliers. the gallant "Fighting Fifth," will not regard with jealousy nor as an infringement of a prescriptive right the donning of the emblem of England by their brothers in arms.

In our September issue we look forward to presenting our readers with the results, so far, of the labours of the Committee.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY.

EXTRACTS FROM *ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE*, APRIL 30TH, 1887.

NEWRY, 30th April, 1887. Out of respect to the memory of our late Colonel, all the usual festivities connected with St. George's Day were, this year, dispensed with; there was no trooping of the Colours and the Regiment wore no roses in their caps. All the officers present at Headquarters, with Lieutenants Sitwell and White from Belfast, dined together at Mess, but, naturally, it was not such a festive gathering as usual and the Band did not play. Our only guests were Captain Cramsie, Mr. Kelly from Mullingar (otherwise known as "of Arrah"), and Surgeon Semple. This is the sixth year we have had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Kelly on St. George's Day, which always brings to our recollection the story of the relief of Arrah in 1887 in which Mr. Kelly served as a volunteer with the relieving force under Eyre.

At the 16th Lancers' Regimental Races, on the 2nd inst. over the Fairyhouse Course, Captain Lambton won with his mare, *Diana*, a handsome cup presented by His Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant for a hunter's race, open to members of the Viceregal Staff. *Diana* started at 10—1 odds against her, but in the end won very easily.

Some of us accepted the kind invitation of our old friends, the 85th Light Infantry, to put up at the Curragh with them for the Punchestown Meeting. The weather during the two days was simply perfect and the racing good. Of the hospitality of the 85th, our "permanent" honorary members, we could not speak too highly and we can only hope on some future occasion to have an opportunity of returing their kindness to us.

Our four-oared boat has arrived from Eton and we go out almost daily on the canal, most of the officers showing considerable proficiency in the use of the oar.

We are glad to see from our 2nd Battalion Notes that Bandmaster Wallace has been keeping up his rifle shooting in India. We remember when he was with us he was the "best shot in the Regiment," the first year he fired and the next year he won the Commander-inChief's gold watch in India, when the 1st Battalion won the Cup.

2ND BATTALION NOTES.—The "Benares" (N.C.O. Plate), open to teams of four non-commissioned officers from all corps was brought home by the following team. Value, 550 rupees—seven shots at 500 and 600 yards. Prize cup value 300 rupees and a purse 60 rupees :—

	500yds.	600yds.	Total.
Sergeant-Major Frazer	33	33	66
Bandmaster Wallace	33	30	63
Colour-Sergeant Smith	34	28	62
" Rowsell	29	28	57
	129	119	248

DEPÔT NOTES.—A number of old FIFTH sergeants who are at present on the Militia Staff and with the Volunteers paid a visit to the Depôt one day this month. A photographic group was taken of twenty-four sergeants, the average service of twenty of whom was twenty years and three months. Old times were well discussed and many an old joke retold.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

AT YZERSPRUIT CEMETERY.

(Reprinted from *The Record*, 2nd March, 1912).

ON Sunday afternoon last about forty members of S. Peter's congregation drove out to Yzerspruit to attend a memorial service at the military cemetery there, where a number of soldiers who fell in Von Donop's convoy disaster are buried. Before the service started the graves were decorated with wreaths. The service, which was conducted by the Rev. J. A. Cutten, M.A., commenced at 4 o'clock, and was quite short. Hymns, 231, 537 and 499 were sung, and psalm 46 read. The lesson was taken from I. Corinthians, xv., the lesson for the burial service; the collect from this service was also read. Before the last hymn the Rev. J. A. Cutten gave a brief address on the motto of the 5th Northumberland Fusiliers, twenty-nine of whom are buried in the cemetery. He said that "Quo Fata Vocant" may be literally translated as "Where duty calls," and pointed out the lesson to be learnt from the men who lie buried in this cemetery on the veld. He paid a tribute to those who had come at the call of the Empire to fight for equal rights for all white men. Many made the greatest sacrifice of all in the discharge of their duty, and laid down their lives. We honour their memory, and strive to follow their example in living up to one of the highest ideals of humanity, viz., to live and, if needs be, to die for one's country. We honour alike the Boer and the Briton who fell, each fighting for the cause he thought right. Thanks to their sacrifice

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to-day we enjoy peace, prosperity and progress, such as was undreamed of by the early settlers.

For no more shall the war-cry sever,
Or the winding spruits run red.
We have buried our anger for ever,
And we've laurelled the graves of the dead.

Under the veld do they lay,
Waiting the judgment day,

We have love and tears for our friends,
And tears and love for the foe.

The service concluded with the beautiful hymn "On the Resurrection morning," and the Benediction.

[*The 25th February, 1912, was the 10th Aniversary.—Ed., "St. G.G."*]

FORTY YEARS' SERVICE WITH THE FIFTH FUSILIERS.

By Mr. L. WALLACE, late Bandmaster, 2nd Batt. 5th Fusiliers).

(*Continued from page 45*).

With our 1st and 2nd Battalions away from home the War Office now began to get anxious for the safety of the country, but bethought itself of the 300 Fusiliers left behind in Portsmouth. These were hurriedly formed into 3rd and 4th Battalions and with this nucleus—to which our Band and Drummer Boys were attached—we made our way to York. On detraining there we were met by the fine band of the 2nd Dragoons who played us to our barracks, we playing alternately with them. When we struck up our first tune it was amusing to see their Bandsmen looking back with astonishment at the curious noise behind, but though they may not have admired our music, our *cheek* there was no denying. So they heard the "Young and Bold" for the first time. At York we came under the command of General Thynne, a strict disciplinarian, who must still be remembered in those parts. No detail of dress and recruiting seemed to escape him, and if it did, there was always his second-in-command Colonel Browne, V.C., which came to the same thing. As for bandmasters, he kept an eye on what kind of boots they wore, and for his inspections they had to be "ammunitions" and the gold lace on the tunics strictly according to regulation. The Militia and Volunteer Permanent Staff always had some yarn handy concerning his last inspection.

At Church when he attended we were on tenterhooks. Woe to the minister if he kept the troops over time or did not begin the service punctually to the moment. The bandmaster got it if things were not to his satisfaction in the choir, which he insisted should be sized for appearance sake, no matter what voice part they sang. I don't know which of the two felt the most uncomfortable during the service, the minister or the bandmaster. Sometimes after the service we would compare notes and console each other, though we were by no means the only ones who had to mind their p's and q's. Most people felt that Church Parade was a very stiff General's inspection in miniature, and the only ones who felt happy on such a Sunday were those who did not follow the drums that day.

The war, after what were called the dark days, ran on with such a swift series of successes, that some of us were beginning to speculate on the probable date of the Battalion's return home, though it was not to be for some while yet. Meantime the two new Battalions were being licked into shape, and the 4th, to which I was attached, got Sergeant-Major Morgan from the Grenadier Guards, who did things the Guards' way, and the recruits under him did live! So, too, did the instructors, who all learnt from him what it was to move and think quickly, and with everybody else he had anything to do with it was "*one—two*," sharp and decisive. I could see a smart Battalion was being turned out, not gradually, but quickly, and I could not help feeling proud of those who were doing it. While the drills were going on, a new Band was being formed under the able guidance of Mr. Smith, their bandmaster, who had just been appointed from Kneller Hall. Their boys and mine formed one band for the time being and did all the necessary band work, but one day a thunder bolt dropped in the shape of an order from the General's office, that the boys of the 2nd Battalion were to be divided between the 3rd and 4th Battalions. Having foreseen the possibility of such an order being issued, I was more or less prepared for this and hurried to the General's office and asked for an interview with the General. In my younger days I daresay I should have felt nervous, especially when the A.A.G., who had been deputed to see me, remarked, "The idea of a bandsman coming here!" but I was now case-hardened, and would have gone anywhere on behalf of my boys and Battalion. I explained my mission and produced my applications, which had been forwarded to London, considered and approved. The A.A.G. saw my point and cancelled the order, and shortly after, as the Band of the 4th Battalion could now stand on its own legs, my little band was sent to the Depôt, where we were made most welcome by Colonel Gordon in command there.

Without delay we then began to make ourselves useful and were assisted in the task by some bandsmen of the Durham Light Infantry. Our chief duty was to play detachments for South Africa to the railway station and give them a musical send off, and later on to meet and give them a welcome home. The scenes on such occasions were much on a par with my earlier experiences of a Newcastle crowd. Such mighty crowds assembled at the Central Station that it was only by the aid of the Mounted Police that we could make any headway. At such times working men used to celebrate the occasion by taking a holiday, and this practice so seriously inconvenienced the different trades that at last representations were made to the Military Authorities, which resulted in the Band only going part of the way to meet the incomers, and in this way publicity was partly avoided. These great gatherings were at times responsible for some curious incidents. When the Yeomanry returned from the Front all Newcastle turned out to greet them although it was past midnight when they arrived, and again accompanied them *en masse* to the Barracks. The start from the Central was well controlled and I thought the remainder of the journey would be easy going, but after the first hundred yards it became a general mix up, and we had to make our way as well as we could. In the dim light I caught an occasional glimpse of straggling khaki uniforms, the wearers sometimes being carried shoulder high. Eventually we arrived at the Barrack gate, waited a few moments to give time for closing up, and then marched in on to the square, the Band playing vigorously. We might have been playing a couple of minutes when Colonel Gordon came over and asked where the Yeomanry were. I was dumbfounded. Not one had followed us in. The ties of friendship and hero worship had proved too strong to allow the crowd to part with them, and it was fully two hours before the last man came in and reported himself.

Among the number of men in Barracks who had been wounded in South Africa was one case I thought a bit remarkable, namely, that of a bandsman of the Durham Light Infantry. He had a bullet lodged so close to his spine that an operation to remove it was considered to be too dangerous, but he seemed none the worse and became a famous bayonet fighter, always taking first place in competitions.

I have very often noticed a quantity of miss-fire cartridges in possession of men who thought them quite harmless. A sad accident took place in one of the Barrack rooms from the same cause. One afternoon, as soon as the parade was dismissed and the men made their way to their different rooms, one of them said in a joking way to another who was a chum of his, and who was seated on the side of his bed-cot, "Look out, I am going to shoot you," at the same time going through the loading motions and, using a miss-fire cartridge that he took from his pocket, one that must have been used dozens of times before for parade purposes. He aimed and snapped, but to his horror this time it went off killing his chum, and the shock nearly killed him as well.

(*To be continued.*)

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AN AMERICAN NIGGER'S LETTER.

BRUSH, COLORADO,
6 June.

Mister Bourne, kare of the Ofallen Sup Co.

Dere frend. i got the valve which i by from you alrite but why for gods sake doan you sen me no handle. i Loose to my customer shure ting. You doan treat me rite is my money not so good as the other fellow. i wate 10 daze and my customer he holler for water like hell by the valve. you know he is hot summer now and the win he no blow the weel the valve she got no handle so wat the hell i goan do. you doan sen me the handle pretty quick i sen her bak and i goan order some valve from the Henry Bitoff Companee, goodbye, your frend,

ANTON SCALMINIE DUTRE.

Since i rite theese letter i find the goddam handle in the boks excuse me.

1812 IN THE PENINSULA.
APRIL.

THE STORMING OF BADAJOS.

(*Continued from page 46.*)

In spite of the heavy fire which had been kept up against the fortress since the storming of the Picurina redoubt, it was not until the beginning of April that it began to tell on the defences, with such effect that, on the 3rd the breaches were declared to be practicable. Lord Wellington ordered the attack for the evening of this day, but finding that an inundation prevented a frontal attack, countermanded the order and a fresh breach had to be made.[1] But favourably as the siege had progressed for the Allies, at the last moment it seemed as though it might have to be raised; on the 5th April Soult, with a French Army, was only three marches distant and Marmont was about to move from Salamanca. Soult, however, advanced no further, and the breaches being practicable on the 6th, the assault was ordered for that night. Some 18,000 men, drawn from 3rd, 4th, 5th and Light Divisions and a Portuguese Brigade were to carry out the assault; the 3rd Division against the Castle, 4th and Light Divisions against the breaches, while the 5th Division, on the extreme left was to make a feint on the Pardaleras redoubt and a real attack on the bastion of San Vincent.[2]

The following extracts are taken from a "Memorandum for the attack of Badajos,"[3] and give us an idea of the task allotted to the "Fighting Third" Division of which the 2nd Battalion 5th Foot formed part.

"1. The fort of Badajos is to be attacked at ten o'clock this night.

"2. The attack must be made on three points; the Castle, the face of the bastion of La Trinidad and the flank of the bastion of Santa Maria.

"3. The attack of the Castle to be by escalade, and that of the two bastions by the storm of the breaches.

"4. The troops for the storm of the Castle consisting of the 3rd Division of Infantry, should move out from the right of the first parallel at a little before ten o'clock, but not to attack till ten o'clock.

"5. They should cross the river Rivillas below the broken bridge over that river and attack that part of the castle which is on the right, and looking from the trenches and in the rear of the great battery constructed by the enemy to fire on the bastion of La Trinidad.

"6. Having arrived within the Castle, and having secured possession of it, parties must be sent to the left along the rampart to fall on the rear of those defending the great breach. . . . . .

"7. The troops for this attack must have all the long ladders in the Engineers' park and six of the lengths of the Engineers' ladders. They must be attended by twelve carpenters with axes and by six miners with crowbars, etc. . . . . .

"21. The soldiers must leave their knapsacks in camp."

Badajos had long been regarded by our soldiers as, in some way, a reproach to themselves. This feeling was caused no doubt by the recollection of two unsuccessful sieges, but particularly by the well-known hostility of its inhabitants towards the British Army, to which might be added a desire for further plunder, which the sacking of Ciudad Rodrigo had given them a taste for. They had endured every hardship in this siege with unfailing cheerfulness but now that the longed-for opportunity was come their finer feelings vanished and the desire for revenge and plunder took their place; the capture of Badajos was their idol and the fortress was denounced as a place to be made an example of, and no city was more strictly visited to the letter.[4]

The night of the 6th April was dark and still while a thick vapour hung about the fortress and the trenches, and silence reigned everywhere except for a murmur from the trenches and the rippling of the Guadiana. As soon as each division had formed on its ground in open columns of companies, arms were piled, and officers and men alike fell out and were able to observe the arrangements in other brigades which were engaged in the assault. But the approach of the 3rd Division Commander was the signal for the formation of column of attack. Grattan tells us that "little, if any, directions were given; indeed, they were unnecessary, because the men from long service were so conversant with the duty they had to perform that it would have been but a waste of words and time to say what was required of them." The men quickly prepared themselves for the business in hand, removing their stocks, unbuttoning their shirt collars, tucking up their trousers to the knees, full of self-confidence and determined at all hazards to conquer.

The task before the 3rd Division was desperate indeed. The walls of the Castle were from 18 to 20 feet high, presenting a solid cliff of masonry manned by a host of veterans, armed, each man, with several firelocks while the top of the wall, narrow enough to enable the defenders easily to reach the tops of the scaling ladders, was crowned with huge rocks, hand grenades and live shells.

All was now ready and the signal being given the 3rd Division moved forward in one solid mass towards the Rivillas, the 45th leading and followed by 88th and 74th, then came a Portuguese Brigade followed by 5th, 77th, 83rd and 94th.[5] It had been intended that all the columns should attack simultaneously at 10 p.m., but the garrison by means of fireballs thrown from the Castle discovered the position of the 3rd Division, and obliged them to begin the attack soon after 9.30 p.m.; then the alarm being given the other columns hurried forward and the attack became general. Under a shattering musketry fire the 3rd Division pressed forward against the Castle, passing the Rivillas in single files by a narrow bridge,[6] and then, reforming, dashed to the foot of the wall. There, spreading along the wall, the troops raised their heavy ladders and began to ascend them, greeted with a shower of heavy stones, logs and bursting shells rolled off the parapets, assailed in flank by an incessant musketry and in front their leading men bayonetted by the defenders and the ladders thrown down. But fresh ladders were quickly raised, soldiers swarmed round them each trying to be the first man to ascend; the French redoubled their efforts and with the final overturning of the last ladder an hour's desperate fighting had made no impression on the Castle. The British retired a few paces and took refuge under the edge of the hill on which the Castle stands; Picton who had been watching the fight became uneasy and called out to his men that they had never been defeated and that now was the time to conquer or die.[7]

His appeal was quickly answered; the broken ranks were more or less re-formed and Colonel Ridge, of the 5th, by his

1 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
2 Ibid.
3 Despatches.
4 Grattan. Adventures with the Connaught Rangers.
5 Grattan.
6 Napier.
7 Grattan.

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personal exertions caused two ladders to be placed upright against a part of the wall which was lower than in other places and springing forward mounted one ladder himself while Canch, a Grenadier officer of the 5th, mounted the other.[8] Followed on every rung of the ladder by his fearless and devoted soldiers Ridge ascended so quickly that before the defenders on the parapets could force the ladders back the weight on them became too great and they pressed firmly against the wall.[9] The French now concentrated around these ladders pouring their fire on the gallant men ascending and on those crowding round the foot. Still Ridge pressed on, his sword guarding his head and the bayonets of those on the next rungs thrust upwards to protect him, and with Canch and a few more gained a footing on the parapet. Other ladders were now erected and a general rush to them took place and Ridge, at the head of his men, actually drove the garrison from the Castle into the town.[10]

The defenders paid dearly for their desperate defence and a frightful butchery appears to have taken place in the Castle itself; but few prisoners were made and mercy does not seem to have been expected from men engaged in the fury of such a night assault. Yet the French were not satisfied. A reinforcement from their reserve came up and made a futile effort to recapture the Castle which had cost the Army the "heart's blood of the 3rd Division."[11] The attempt was defeated with great slaughter but not "until as brave an officer as ever fought had fallen by almost the last shot. This was Ridge who was first upon the walls and whose daring example both at Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajos had rendered him an object of emulation throughout the Army,"[12] and the dawn of the morrow showed to the rest of the Army, like a speck on the horizon, the shattered remnant of Picton's invincible soldiers.[13] The appearance of the Castle next morning almost defies description; the foot of the walls was littered with broken ladders, with piles of shattered arms and the dead bodies—many with arms in their hands—of the gallant men who had perished in the terrible struggle of the previous night.

But let us turn elsewhere and see how it fared with the other columns engaged in this desperate enterprise. Warned by the sudden blaze of light and the outburst of musketry at the Castle that the attack had begun, the double columns of the 4th and Light Divisions moved silently and swiftly against the breaches. All was quiet here among the French defending the ramparts and until the storming parties of the Divisions, throwing their hay-packs into the ditch leapt after them into the darkness there was no stir. Then a bright flame shot up, disclosing for a moment the dense columns of the British and the ramparts crowded with the enemy; a violent explosion followed, for the enemy had filled the ditch with explosive material of every kind and nearly every man of the storming parties perished.[14]

Though staggered for the moment by this appalling destruction the assaulting columns pushed forward recklessly to the breaches; powder barrels, live-shells, fire balls were hurled from the ramparts and a blaze of musketry dazzled their eyes.[15] In the darkness the 4th Division went too much to their right and became mixed up in an inundation in which many men were drowned while the Light Division rushed towards the portion of the breach allotted to the 4th Division, who turned to their left when the inundation was found to block their way. Thus the two Divisions became mixed and the confusion hopeless. To add to the trouble the reserves came pouring in and the ditch became packed with a struggling mass of men on whom from the ramparts poured a ceaseless rain of musketry, shells and hand-grenades. Officers and men rushed desperately up the debris to the breaches to find their way barred by a dense hedge of sword-blades ground on both edges to the keenness of razors, fixed in heavy beams built into the masonry,[16] the ground in front of them covered with loose planks studded with sharp iron spikes in front of which again were large holes; an obstacle only negotiated with the greatest difficulty when undefended and in daylight and which in the darkness and the prevailing confusion may well have been impassable. Again and again were these spasmodic assaults delivered sometimes in large bodies and sometimes in small parties yet no impression whatever was made on the defences though hundreds of men had fallen and were falling. Sometimes the line of sword-blades was reached but more often the attackers were destroyed before reaching them. For two hours these Divisions recklessly maintained the unequal conflict, heedless of their losses, persevering till midnight when Lord Wellington ordered their withdrawal after 2,000 men had fallen.

With the 5th Division things had gone better, for while General Keith made a false attack on the Pardaleras he sent forward General Walker's Brigade to escalade the San Vincente bastion. Though the ladders were found to be too short, the ramparts were not fully manned as some of the defenders had been called away to aid in an attempt to retake the Castle,[17] and the forlorn hope struggled man by man through an embrasure in spite of a heavy fire, and the bastion was gained. A counter attack by the French was defeated and the 5th Division entered the town. They found the streets empty but brilliantly illuminated and the houses bright with lamps; no persons were seen, yet a low buzz and whisper were heard around and, above all, the uproar at the main breaches.[18] The Division quitting the great square, which was as deserted as the streets, attempted to take the breaches in reverse, but were driven back with loss. This was the expiring flicker of the French resistance and the Governor with a few hundred soldiers crossed the river and entered San Christaval where early next morning he surrendered, thus sparing the shattered remnants of the 4th and Light Divisions another assault in the grey dawn.

The scenes which followed the capture of Ciudad Rodrigo were repeated and intensified at the fall of Badajos. If the former "was turned into a hell of drunkenness and insubordination," there are probably no words in the English language with which to describe the sack of Badajos. Before 6 a.m. on the 7th April all organisation among the assaulting columns had ceased and the Army so fine and effective on the previous day became a band of brigands materially aided and abetted by a swarm of rascals, Spanish and Portuguese, men and women.[19] Probably some 20,000 people were let loose upon the luckless town and while the French garrison was respected the inhabitants paid dearly for the shots fired from the houses when the troops first entered the town. For two days and nights every kind of violence raged in Badajos. When Lord Wellington entered the town on the morning of the 7th April the soldiers began firing ball cartridge in his honour and nearly shot him;[20] in vain were fresh troops marched into the town to quell the riot and it was not until the 9th that order was finally restored.

The price paid for Badajos, snatched as it was from the presence, almost, of two French armies was heavy indeed. Five thousand men fell during the siege, of whom 3,500 fell during the assault, and of these 2,000 at the breaches where this carnage took place in a space of less than a hundred square yards.[21] The loss of the 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment included two officers and seventeen men killed and four officers and thirty men wounded, while Lord Wellington's appreciation of the work of the 3rd Division is shown in the following extract from his despatches:—"The officers and troops of the 3rd Division distinguished themselves as usual in these operations; Lieutenant-General Picton has reported to me particularly the conduct of . . . . . Lieutenant-Colonel Ridge, of the 5th, who was unfortunately killed in the assault of the Castle."

In commemoration of this service the word "Badajoz" was authorised to be borne on the colours.

8 Ibid.
9 Robinson. Life of Sir T. Picton.
10 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
11 Grattan.
12 Robinson. Life of Sir T. Picton.
13 Grattan.
14 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
15 Napier.
16 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
17 Napier.
18 Ibid.
19 Grattan. Adventures with the Connaught Rangers.
20 Tomkinson. Diary of a Cavalry Officer.
21 Napier.

(To be continued).

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THE DIGEST OF SERVICE.

(*Continued from December, 1911, Supplement.*)

1898. January 2nd.—The Battalion received orders to hold itself in readiness for immediate embarkation for Egypt.

January 14th.—Marching-out Inspection of the Battalion by His Excellency Sir R. Biddulph, K.C.B., K.C.M.G. He addressed a few words to the men.

January 15th.—The establishment of Webley pistols was increased from one to six.

January 16th.—The Drummers received ten swords (new pattern).

January 17th.—The Battalion embarked on board the P. & O. freightship *Malta* in the afternoon. Strength:—26 Officers, 2 Warrant Officers, 46 Sergeants, 41 Corporals, 16 Drummers, 871 Privates.

January 18th.—s.s. *Malta* sailed, and after a good passage arrived at Alexandria on Monday, January 24th. The Regiment entrained by half Battalions the same night and reached Cairo on Tuesday 25th, marching up to the Citadel Barracks, there to be stationed.

January 28th.—The General Officer Commanding the Army in Egypt, Sir F. Grenfell, K.C.B., G.C.M.G., held the Marching-in Inspection of the Battalion.

March 1st.—A Draft of 2 Men and 8 Boys arrived from the 2nd Battalion.

April 1st.—The Battalion went into camp of exercise at Mens, near the Pyramids, a distance of seven miles from the Citadel. The Battalion consisted of six Companies made up to war strength, with the regulation number of Band and Drums, the headquarters of D and E Companies remained behind at the Citadel. In the same Brigade as ourselves, were the 2nd Lancashire Fusiliers (20th) and 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers (87th); the other troops engaged in the same manœuvres were the 21st Lancers, and the 32nd Field Battery. The troops were exercised for five days and the camp broke up on April 8th.

April 23rd.—The Annual Trooping of the Colours took place on St. George's Day, on the Mahomet Ali Square, just below the Citadel at 8 o'clock in the morning, Lord Cromer, British Agent General in Cairo, and Major-General Sir Francis Grenfell, K.C.B., G.C.M.G., Commanding the Troops in Egypt, were present. After the trooping, the officers of the Battalion entertained their friends in the Officers' Mess at the Citadel.

May 24th.—The troops in garrison celebrated Her Majesty's birthday, in front of the Abdin Palace, there was no *feu-de-joie*, but the Battalion trooped the Colours.

May 25th.—The right-half Battalion under Major Hon. C. Lambton marched to the Polygon Camp, near Abbas-Siyeh, to fire their annual course of musketry, returning at its conclusion on the 8th June, on which day the left-half Battalion, under Major E. W. Dashwood, proceeded to Polygon, so that they might, in their turn, fire their course of musketry. They returned to the Citadel on June 19th. The Battalion received orders on June 17th to hold itself in readiness for active service up Nile, on or about August 3rd.

August 3rd.—The right-half Battalion left Cairo for the Sudan, the left-half Battalion leaving three days later. The strength of the Battalion proceeding to the Front was as follows:—28 Officers, 1 Warrant Officer, 40 Sergeants, 38 Corporals, 12 Drummers, 732 Privates.

A Depôt of men, medically unfit for service, with a due proportion of N.C.O.'s, were left behind at the Citadel, under command of Captain F. C. Turner.

Except that officers all wore the Wolseley pattern helmets, their kit and equipment was that usually carried by British officers proceeding on active service. The men wore spine pads and helmet curtains, and had 40 rounds of ammunition on the person. Each man had his kit bag with heavy baggage, but had enough for his immediate wants in a second haversack which he carried on his back in place of a valise.

Each man had steel tips to his boots and they wore uncommonly well.

The right-half Battalion, with Headquarters, leaving Cairo at 4 p.m. on August 3rd, arrived at Luxor at 12 mid-day, August 4th. This journey of 20 hours in spite of the dust was made in comparative comfort. 36 N.C.O.'s and men occupied a third-class carriage capable of holding 48 persons.

August 4th.—Changed trains at Luxor. Baggage was shifted by the Railway Battalion of Egyptian soldiers. Left Luxor at 4 p.m., arriving at Shellal at 4 a.m. on August 5th.

August 5th.—Baggage was all moved by our own men into barges and steamers at Shellal. The means of transport at the disposal of the half Battalion were two steamers, 3 double-decked barges and one ordinary barge for the horses. Roughly speaking each barge accommodated 140 men.

August 8th.—Wady Halfa was reached at 5 p.m., and the heavy baggage was loaded into trucks close alongside the barges, but the men slept on board that night.

August 9th.—Left by train for Atbara at 7 a.m. by the new desert railway, the Sudan Military Railway as it is called,

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arriving at our destination at 5 p.m. on the 10th. This journey of 380 miles across the Nubian Desert was of rather a trying nature, as the trucks in which the men were accommodated were of a decidedly rough and ready description, and very hot. There was also a scarcity of water.

August 10th.—The Drums and Fife of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards played us into camp. Our lines were on the right bank of the river Atbara, at its junction with the Nile.

August 13th.—The left-half Battalion arrived. The FIFTH were brigaded with :—

1st Battalion Grenadier Guards
2nd Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers
2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade.

We were under the command of Brigadier-General Hon. N. G. Lyttleton, C.B., and were called the 2nd British Brigade. The 1st British Brigade consisted of :—

1st Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment
1st Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment
1st Battalion Seaforth Highlanders
1st Battalion Cameron Highlanders

under Brigadier-General A. Wauchope, C.B. The British Division was commanded by Major-General W. Gatacre, C.B., D.S.O. The whole force was commanded by Major-General Sir Herbert Kitchener, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Sirdar.

The Brigade was exercised each morning in attack formations and especially in marching slowly in line, each man in the front rank firing independently at a presumed enemy 500 yards off. By this means it was hoped that such a heavy fire would be poured in that the enemy would not dare to show their heads above their defences. At first the shooting was not good, but it improved after a little practice.

August 18th.—The Battalion remained at Atbara till this date, when the Headquarters and six Companies at 6.30 p.m. embarked on board a Nile gunboat, the *Nasr*, two barges and two gyassas. All ranks were rather crowded as 120 men were ordered to find room as best they could on each deck of the barges, and 40 men were literally stacked on each gyassa. Major-General Gatacre accompanied the Battalion on this steamer.

August 21st.—Divine Service was held on shore, at a spot not half-a-mile from Metemmeh; after the service, Major-General Gatacre spoke a few words to the men, bidding them remember the massacre of Jaalins by the Dervishes at this very spot in July, 1897.

August 22nd.—Arrived at Wad Hamed, at about 9.30 a.m. and disembarked. Here were assembled all the Egyptian Army and such of the British Troops as had left Atbara. At Wad Hamed, all ranks of the British Division slept in zareba, fully armed and accoutred; this practice was continued until the fall of Omdurman. From this date until leaving Omdurman on the 13th September, the whole force were in bivouac, tents only being taken on for Field Hospitals.

August 23rd.—The Sirdar held a review of the whole force on a plain near Wad Hamed. Besides the 2 British Brigades, 1 Cavalry Regiment, 5 Batteries of Artillery, 1 Camel Corps, 4 Brigades of Infantry, and departments, in all about 23,000 men were present.

August 24th.—G and H Companies arrived in the evening, under Major E. W. Dashwood.

August 25th.—The 2nd Brigade, British Division, except G and H Companies of the FIFTH, and the 2nd Rifle Brigade, marched from Wad Hamed to Wad-Y-Bishara, a distance of 10 miles. The rate of marching was about 1½ miles an hour; the men felt the heat a great deal and several fell out.

August 26th.—At about 9 a.m. G and H Companies marched into camp, and at 4 p.m. the Battalion now complete marched out into the desert with the remainder of the British Division, the 1st Brigade leading. Although the distance covered was only six miles at the most this was a very trying march and an unusual number of men fell out. As far as experience goes it would seem that at any rate in the Sudan, it is not advisable to move troops by route march, *after* the men's dinners. Firstly, because it is generally hotter after midday than before that hour, and secondly, because the men cannot possibly start fresh and vigorous, as during active service the troops will have been on fatigues for many hours during the morning.

Another drawback to marching in the afternoon is the fact that it is dark when the camping ground is reached and that consequently it takes much longer to settle down and in case of an alarm no one has a very correct idea of the situation. As far as can be ascertained no name had been given to our camp on this occasion, neither did it deserve a name as it was an arid, rocky, waterless tract of desert to the west of the Shabluka Pass. The Egyptian Army, who were at El Hajir, some miles further south, provided water for the troops.

August 27th.—The British Division, 1st Brigade leading, advanced on El Hajir, a distance of seven miles. The actual march was performed under decidedly favourable circumstances as the weather was quite cool and there was a pleasant breeze, but a considerable amount of time was wasted and a great deal of inconvenience was caused by the fact that the authorities could not decide which was the best position for the troops to occupy. Orders were given and cancelled with amazing rapidity and the different Battalions wandered about aimlessly, thus harassing the men most unnecessarily.

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On this occasion the Egyptian Army had very kindly made a zareba for us, which Major-General Gatacre, apparently after much thought, decided not to make use of. This was practically the first opportunity our men had had of seeing their Sudanese and Egyptian comrades-in-arms. The British Division marched past their lines and received a hearty welcome, and the native Bands played all the Regimental Marches as we passed.

August 28th.—El Hajir is on the left bank of the Nile and exactly opposite to Royan Island, which was used as a Depôt for stores, and also a hospital for sick and weakly men. Upwards of 80 men of the Battalion, under Captain Ferguson, were sent to Royan Island; these men were not actually sick, but they were not deemed fit to stand the fatigues of the next four or five days' marching.

The British Division attended Divine Service, and after an excellent sermon by the Rev. A. W. B. Watson, C.F., Major-General Gatacre, as was generally his custom, made a somewhat lengthy speech to the men.

During the service, the Egyptian and Sudanese troops marched southwards. The British followed at 4 p.m. Having marched eight miles we formed up in zareba at Umtarif. During the night the troops were disturbed by an alleged visit from a Dervish horseman. According to the Lancashire Fusiliers, a horseman rode at one of their sentries, threw a spear, and then vanished; and, as evidence, a Dervish spear was produced. On the other hand, a native camp follower was understood to observe that he had that evening lost a spear similar to the one found. There has always been considerable doubt in the minds of all ranks as to whether a sentry, at night, ought to fire at a single scout of the enemy and thus cause an alarm throughout the whole camp. Most authorities say he ought not to fire, but the Sirdar ruled, that at any rate on this occasion the sentry *should* have fired, as the Dervishes were apt to become unduly elated if their scouts were allowed to approach quite close to the camp with impunity.

The Army remained at Umtarif during the whole of August 29th.

August 30th.—The Army advanced in fighting formation, British Division leading, and the FIFTH were the directing Battalion. This proved to be a long march, but it was fortunately a very cool day. During the march, we passed through a fairly large-sized deserted Dervish village, which had evidently been evacuated in great haste. The troops bivouacked in zareba, at a spot two miles north of Meri Hills, distance 13 miles.

August 31st.—Advanced again in the same formation as the previous day, and the FIFTH were told off to perform the duties of rear-guard. The weather still remained cool. We marched 10 miles and encamped six miles north of Kerreri Hills.

September 1st.—Rain fell during the early morning in considerable quantities. The Army advanced, all ranks fully expecting to come in contact with the enemy. The FIFTH were in the front line, and so all in the Battalion had a splendid opportunity of seeing the whole Anglo-Egyptian Army advancing in successive lines, over the sandy, undulating country. After a march of nine miles, we encamped at the village of Ageigia, seven miles from Omdurman, arriving at that spot at 12 mid-day. The usual parties were sent out from the Battalion, for the purpose of collecting wood and bringing in water, and all hands had settled down to the usual routine after a day's march, when the order was suddenly received for the men to eat their dinners as soon as possible, as the Khalifa was about to deliver an attack.

A defensive position outside the village was immediately chosen and taken up. The British Division was on the left, nearest to Omdurman, the Egyptian and Soudanese troops being on the right, on either flank were the artillery, and such gunboats as could be spared from the bombardment of Omdurman, which was at that moment in full swing. The cavalry and camel corps were keeping touch with the enemy.

The British lost no time in ascertaining the correct ranges to salient points in their front and in making a zareba. Towards nightfall, it became evident that the Khalifa did not mean to attack us that day, this opinion being confirmed by the cavalry, who reported that the Dervishes lay in a khor, some three miles off and that they were busy cooking food.

It was, however, thought very probable that the enemy would attack us by night, and so the very strictest watch was kept. Two friendly Arab "listeners" had been sent out by Slatin Bey to observe the enemy, and as they returned to camp, at 11 p.m., with the news that the Dervishes were advancing, the Battalion stood to arms but the alarm proved to be false; during the advance and subsequently the force was frequently harassed by severe dust-storms and heavy rain.

September 2nd.—As may be imagined, all ranks were early astir on the morning of September 2nd. The Battalion stood to arms shortly before day break, and officers and men partook of a hasty breakfast, in the shape of cocoa, biscuits, and bully beef.

At 5.30 a.m. we prepared to march out of the zareba to the attack; in fact, we had gone so far as to clear gaps in it to march through, when orders were received to fill up the gaps again, as the cavalry, who had gone out to reconnoitre at early dawn, reported that the enemy were already coming on to attack us. The exact position of the Anglo-Egyptian Army at 5.30 a.m. was as follows:—The line formed an obtuse angle; with the Nile at its base, the order of brigades and battalions, counting from the left, was the following:—General Lyttleton's 2nd British Brigade (2nd Rifle Brigade, 2nd 20th, 1st 5th, Grenadier Guards); General Wauchope's 1st British Brigade (1st 6th, 72nd, 79th and 1st 10th); Maxwell's 2nd Egyptian Brigade (14th, 12th, 13th Sudanese, with 8th Egyptian in support). Here came the point in the obtuse angle referred to; to the right of it were:—Macdonald's 1st Egyptian Brigade (11th, 10th, 9th Soudanese, with 2nd Egyptian supporting);

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Lewis's 3rd Egyptian Brigade (4th, 15th and 3rd, with 7th Egyptian, in column on the right flank). Collinson's 4th Egyptian Brigade (1st, 5th, 17th, and 18th Egyptian) was in reserve in the village.

The British Division had six companies in line and two in support.

On the extreme left was the 32nd Field Battery; the Maxims and Egyptian field guns were posted at intervals in the infantry lines.

We sat down to await events in a very satisfactory position. We had a good field of fire; the ranges had been taken the day before, and there was not much cover for the enemy; the only drawback was that there was a zareba some ten paces in front of our line, which obliged the men to stand up to fire, when they ought to have been able to fire kneeling, or even lying down. The Egyptian force was protected by a simple shelter-trench.

There was no sound from the plain or the hills before us, and there was hardly a sound in our own lines. Everyone was silent and expectant, when at 6 a.m. we first caught a glimpse of innumerable banners passing our front, towards the right at some 3,000yds. distance. Then we could distinctly hear the beating of drums and the peculiar "lu-luing" of the Dervishes. Authorities vary as to the exact number of the Dervishes who took the field against us but there must have been at least 50,000 of them. They seemed to be making for the camel corps on the right of our position, and it was not until nearly 6.30 when the first gun of the 32nd Field Battery was fired, that the enemy turned to their front and attacked us. This artillery fire was answered by a general volley from the Dervishes at the zareba, but they were too far off to do us much harm. Private Dillin, B Company, was wounded in the arm by almost the first shot fired by the Dervishes. Later in the day Lance-Corporal Wooll, G Company, was also shot in the arm. These were the only casualties in the Battalion.

An incessant fire was kept up for quite an hour. Those who were present will not readily forget the magnificent sight the Khalifa's forces presented as they deployed for the attack; most of them were dressed in jibba's, the prevailing colour being white with coloured patches on them, and their countless banners and flags added to the picturesqueness of the scene. We had practically no one to aim at, as the artillery fire effectually stopped any further attack in our direction.

After a time there was a pause in the firing all along the line, but when the enemy got round the right of the zareba and were hurling themselves against the Egyptian troops the roll of musketry fire was terrific; they were beaten back, however, by the fire from our own gunboats.

At 8 a.m the order was given to advance on Omdurman. We cleared gaps in the zareba and marched out, the formation being echelon of Brigades from the left, the 2nd Brigade leading along the bank of the Nile.

Very shortly we were ordered to change front to the right, and we advanced in one line away from the river, with the object of cutting off the Dervishes retreating on Omdurman, but a very large number succeeded in reaching that place. In the meanwhile judging from the rattle of musketry a very hot fire was going on on the north side of Gebel Surgham, though we being on the south side of it saw nothing of this phase of the action; but the troops engaged were chiefly Macdonald's Soudanese, with the 1st British Brigade in support.

At noon a move was made back towards the Nile for water, and eventually, after a long and hot march, we got to a khor, in which there was a thick yellow kind of substance, which under the circumstances had to do duty for water. This was eagerly drunk by both officers and men. At about 4 p.m. the second Brigade fell in and marched on Omdurman, a brigade of Egyptian troops and Artillery leading. No one knew whether it was held or deserted, in fact it was not until we had actually got up to the river fortifications that we knew that the Khalifa had fled.

It was dusk when we arrived at the big wall which surrounded the Beit-el-Mal; there we struck out of the town in a westerly direction, through the narrow streets, so narrow indeed that in places men could only march in single file. It was pitch dark before the Brigade reached the plain, where we had to bivouac. Each Battalion formed up on arrival as nearly as possible in line of quarter columns, and every one settled down for the night, the men being without food and water. It was now about 8 p.m. and pitch dark.

September 3rd.—At daybreak next morning the 2nd Brigade, after marching past and cheering the Sirdar, went into bivouac on the left bank of the Nile, just below Omdurman, and the Battalion remained there till the 11th, 12th and 13th.

September 4th.—On this day a memorial service was held at Khartoum in memory of General Gordon, near the spot where he gave his life for his country. The service was most impressive, the Chaplains of the different denominations officiated. The British and Egyptian flags were hoisted side by side on the ruins of Gordon's Palace. Only a limited number of officers and a small detachment of non-commissioned officers and men from each Battalion were able to go.

September 11th.—C and D Companies, under Major Hon. C. Lambton, left for Atbara by steamer.

September 12th.—A and B Companies embarked for the same destination.

September 13th.—The Headquarters and left-half Battalion followed on this day in the gunboat *Metemmeh*, reaching Atbara on September 15th, and leaving again on the 17th by train for Wady-Halfa. We arrived at Wady-Halfa on the 19th, and left the same day by steamer. The Headquarters disembarked at Shellal on the 20th and took train for Luxor, passed through Cairo, and detrained at Sidi-Gabir Station, Alexandria, on the 22nd and encamped at Mustapha. The remainder of the Battalion reached Mustapha on the 24th; we were now under orders for Malta, but these orders were soon cancelled, and we were informed that we were to hold ourselves in readiness to proceed to Crete at an early date.

(To be continued.)

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER FOR THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo fata vocant."

No. 353.] **Friday, 31st May, 1912.** **[Vol. XXX.**

CONTENTS.

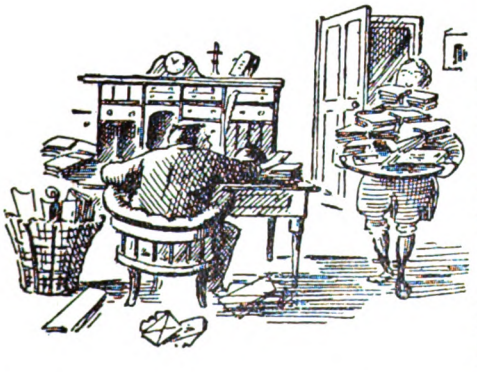
	Page		Page
The Editor's Corner	63	5th Battalion Notes...	70
Our Contemporaries	63	7th Battalion Notes...	70
Subscriptions Received	63	Editorial Notes	71
Births, Marriage and Deaths ...	63	Letters to the Editor	71
Extracts from *London Gazette*...	64	Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day	72
Obituary Notice—The late Major-General T. A. Cooke, C.V.O.	64	The Grouser to Socrates (Poetry)	72
1st Battalion Notes	64	Forty Years' Service with the Fifth Fusiliers (*to be concluded*)	73
2nd Battalion Notes	66	1812 in the Peninsula (*to be continued*)	74
2nd Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes	69	Advertisements i. to viii. and Cover	
Depôt Notes	70		

THE EDITOR'S CORNER.

26, HANS CRESCENT,

LONDON, S.W.,

31st May, 1912.



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Subscriptions should be sent to the Editor; they will be duly notified in the next number of the paper after the remittances have been received.

Subscriptions are due in advance; in the event of a subscription not being paid when due, a bill will be sent (this, however, will not be done in the case of Officers serving with their Battalions, their subscriptions being paid by the Mess President yearly); should a subscription not be paid within two months in the case of a subscriber at home, or three months in the case of a subscriber abroad, after such bill is sent out, it will be assumed that no more copies of the paper are wanted. The name will then be taken off the books.

It is particularly requested that all contributions intended for insertion be sent so as to reach the Editor NOT LATER *than the 25th of each month, in order to allow of punctual publication, and that contributions be written on* ONE SIDE *only of the paper.*

Subscribers changing their addresses, Officers proceeding on leave, and Non-Commissioned Officers and Men proceeding on furlough, or leaving the Regiment, should send their addresses to the Editor.

All communications to be sent direct to the Editor.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following papers:—

"The Army Service Corps Journal"
"Military Mail"
"The Queen's Own Gazette"
"The Globe and Laurel"
"The Green Howards' Gazette"
"The Naval and Military Record"
"The XXX."
"The R.M.A. Magazine"
"The Aldershot News"
"The Antelope"
"The Tiger and the Rose"
"The Black Horse Gazette"
"The Hampshire Regimental Journal"
"The Eagle"
"The Lion and the Rose"
"The Snapper"
"The Regiment"
"The 79th News"
"The Essex Regiment Gazette"
"The Argyllshire Highlanders Regimental News"
"The London Scottish Gazette"
"The Household Brigade Magazine"
"H.L.I. Chronicle"
"The Sapper"
"The Journal of the Royal Artillery"
"The China Dragon"
"The XI. Hussar Journal"
"The 6th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers' Magazine"
"The Suffolk Regimental Gazette"
"The Green Tiger"
"The Acorn"
"The White Lancer"
"The Ranger"
"The Leinsters' Magazine"
"The Dragon"
"The Lillywhites Gazette"
"The Thin Red Line"

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions and payments for *Gazettes* from:—

Miss A. Booth	to 30/ 6/12	Sergeant Shield	to 30/ 4/13
Hon. J. A. Joicey	,, 30/11/12	Lady Bertha Dawkins ...	,, 30/ 4/13
Mr. W. E. Franklin ...	,, 31/12/12	Major Myles	,, 30/ 4/13
R. M. Booth, Esq.... ...	,, 31/12/12	,, Powell-Cotton ...	,, 30/ 4/13
Maj.-Gen. Sir E. Leach, K.C.B.	,, 31/12/12	,, Ritson	,, 30/ 4/13
P.M.C., 6th Battalion ...	,, 31/12/12	B. E. Hervey Bathurst, Esq.	,, 30/ 9/13
Mr. F. Poulter	,, 31/12/12	C. W. Ritson, Esq. ...	,, 31/12/13
Mr. A. P. Carter	,, 31/12/12	R. S. Fletcher, Esq. ...Bound Vol.	
Colonel Beamish	,, 31/12/12	Maj. Morley, History of 2nd Battalion	
Capt. Boddam-Whetham	,, 31/12/12	Depôt Sales, February, per Quartermaster-Sergeant Purcell	
Major Shoubridge ...	,, 31/12/12		
E. L. Salier, Esq.	,, 31/12/12	Secretary Corps of Commissionaires, Newcastle-on-Tyne	
Mr. J. Challons	,, 28/ 2/13		
Mr. J. Morgan	,, 31/ 3/13	P.R.I., 1st Battalion, February *Gazettes*	
Captain M. Borwick ...	,, 31/ 3/13		
Colonel Lord Algernon Percy	,, 31/ 3/13	Mr. J. Dalzell, February Advertisements	

BIRTHS.

BLAIR-IMRIE.—On the 15th inst., at Lunan House, Montrose, the wife of Captain Hew Blair-Imrie, of Lunan, of a daughter.

CRONSHAW.—On the 17th February, at Deolali, India, the wife of No. 7304 Private J. Cronshaw, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, of a daughter.

ROBINSON.—On the 6th inst., at Fenkle Street, Alnwick, the wife of Sergeant-Major T. Robinson, 7th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

FIDDLER—STAGG.—On the 14th ult., at St. John's Church, Eton, Charles Henry Fiddler, late 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions Northumberland Fusiliers, to Mabel Georgina Stagg, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Stagg, of Eton.

DEATHS.

BLACKWOOD.—On the 30th ult., at Montreal, Canada, Mr. Isaac Blackwood, late 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, aged 70 years.

WOOLL.—On the 27th ult., at Mhow, India, the son of No. 3756 Sergeant-Major Wooll, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers.

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EXTRACTS FROM *The London Gazette*:—

COMMANDS AND STAFF.—Captain W. C. Wright, Northumberland Fusiliers, from a Superintendent of Gymnasia, to be Assistant Inspector of Gymnasia, *vice* Captain G. FitzG. H. Trueman, Manchester Regiment (dated 23rd April, 1912).

NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Lieutenant A. C. Milne-Home is seconded for service under the Colonial Office (dated 10th April, 1912). Captain S. C. Birch, half-pay list, retires on retired pay (dated 4th May, 1912). Second-Lieutenant Edward L. Salier to be Lieutenant and to remain seconded (dated 10th April, 1912). Second-Lieutenant M. Blackett-Ord to be Lieutenant (dated 10th April, 1912).

4TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain and Hon. Major J. B. Lowes resigns his commission and is granted permission to retain his rank and to wear the prescribed uniform (dated 27th April, 1912). W. H. Wynnsford (late Colour-Sergeant and Acting Sergeant-Major, 4th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers) to be Quartermaster with the honorary rank of Lieutenant (dated 16th April, 1912).

5TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain C. F. Straughan reverts at his own request to the rank of Lieutenant (dated 25th April, 1912); Lieutenant C. F. Straughan resigns his commission (dated 18th May, 1912). F. J. Kinsella to be Second-Lieutenant (dated 14th March, 1912). G. W. Dodds to be Second-Lieutenant (dated 15th March, 1912).

6TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain J. L. Lovibond to be Major (dated 16th March, 1912). Lieutenant A. O. Langdale resigns his commission (dated 18th May, 1912).

WE much regret to record, in the death of Major-General T. A. Cooke, the loss of another former Officer of the Regiment.

General Cooke joined the 1st Battalion 5th Fusiliers in 1862, and after being promoted Lieutenant without purchase in 1865, on the death of Lieutenant Clutterbuck who was murdered at Birr by a man who accompanied him shooting, exchanged into the 17th Lancers in the following year. Whilst serving with 5th Fusiliers General Cooke was very popular with all ranks and his departure from the Regiment was generally regretted; he rose to the command of the 17th Lancers, taking part in the Zulu war of 1879, and receiving the medal and clasp for this campaign. Subsequently General Cooke was Assistant-Adjutant-General in Bengal from 1888 to 1894, and commanded the Colonial Troops during the Coronation in 1902, when he was made a C.V.O. In addition to this Order and the Kaisir-i-Hind Gold Medal for his services in India, General Cooke received the Jubilee and Coronation Medals. On behalf of the past and present Officers of the 5th Fusiliers the Editor offers to the late General's family his deep sympathy in their bereavement.

The following amendment to Infantry Training (1911) not having appeared in Army Orders is published for information:—

The shoulder from the present. On the command shoulder arms, keeping the face straight, bring the rifle smartly to the slope, cut the left hand away and say no more about it.

1st Battalion Notes.

MHOW,
3rd May, 1912.

OWING to a variety of reasons, war, weather and the coincidence last year of the Sabbath with St. George's Day, this year will be memorable as the first in a spell of five years in which we have been able to celebrate our annual festival by Trooping the Colours. It will be memorable also for having afforded us the opportunity of returning, in some degree, the hospitality which the British Garrison had shown us on our arrival at Mhow.

The heat of the day made an early start imperative and the Trooping of the Colours took place at 7.30 a.m. In the advance in review order at the conclusion of the parade the salute was taken by Colonel F. D. Skinner, commanding at Mhow, in the absence of Major-General Blomfield, who is at present on leave. After the parade about ninety guests from Mhow and Indore were entertained at breakfast in the Officers' Mess. Later the 14th (King's) Hussars and X and Y Batteries Royal Horse Artillery were the guests of the Companies at dinner. In the evening the warrant officers and non-commissioned officers of the Garrison were entertained by the Sergeants' Mess and a dinner was held at the Officers' Mess.

During the day telegrams conveying greetings were received from the following:—

From Home—2nd Battalion, 3rd Battalion; Colonels Money, Stewart, James; Majors Wood, Crispin, Buckley; Captains Girdwood, Bevan, Lynch-Staunton; Lieutenants Forsyth, Athill, Stephen, Watkin, and the Editor.

From various stations in India—Colonel Sir H. Thornhill, K.C.I.E.; Lieutenants Selby, Blackett-Ord, Fellowes, Foljambe, Platt, and Captain Marshall.

From Port Said—Colonel Sitwell, and Mr. (late Sergeant) Ambrose.

From Sierra Leone—Lieutenant Milne Home.

A cable from London "Nordinus" was also received but we unfortunately could not decipher it.

We take this opportunity of thanking all the above named for their kind wishes to us on St. George's Day.

Inspired by the account of a "Trip to Kashmir," recently appearing in the columns of the *St. George's Gazette*, Captain Gatehouse has set out for the happy valley, armed with a fishing rod, a guide book, several back numbers of the regimental paper and a plentiful supply of dough. It is a far cry from Mhow to Srinagar and we wish him all the luck which attended the other venture.

For those who remain in Mhow, our old friend Table B reigns supreme. Far from softening towards the 3rd class

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shot he has brought with him an even less visible target than ever this year. In time we shall get the totally invisible target, from which will be developed the non-existent and purely imaginary target. Then, at last, we shall all be marksmen.

I must correct an unfortunate omission made in the February notes, in which it was not stated that X and Y Batteries Royal Horse Artillery were associated with the 14th (King's) Hussars in the reception we were accorded on our arrival in Mhow.

Colonel Sapte and Captain Festing leave for England by this mail on two months and six months' leave respectively.

The undermentioned officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men have been awarded the Indian Durbar Coronation medal, 1911 :—

Lieut.-Colonel Sapte
Major Yatman, D.S.O.
Captain Festing
„ Sandilands
Captain Herbert
Lieutenant Bonham Carter
„ Selby
„ Lamb

Sergeant-Major Wooll
Bandmaster Moss
Quartermaster-Sergt. Lendon
Sergeant-Drummer Hone
Sergeant-Master-Cook McKim
Colour-Sergeant Cobban
No. 3659 Sergeant Down
„ 3566 „ Zalotynski
„ 1707 Pte. Blyth
„ 4827 „ (L/Cpl.) Baker
„ 6080 Cpl. (L/Sgt.) Litchfield
„ 6292 „ Jeffs
„ 8622 „ (L/Sgt.) Gillborn
„ 8166 „ Allen
„ 6302 Pte. Norwich
„ 6035 „ (L/Cpl.) Hobbs
„ 8867 „ „ Westoby
„ 9103 „ Marsden
„ 2102 Bandsman Peatling
„ 6932 Cpl. Stafford
„ 6940 Bandsman Seavers
„ 1922 Pte. (L/Cp.) Pattison
„ 3085 „ Hunt
„ 8184 Bandsman Ginn
„ 726 Pte. Galbraith
„ 1142 „ Jones
„ 7724 „ Taylor
„ 1021 „ Anderson
„ 645 „ Porter
„ 976 „ Adams
„ 9565 „ Daley
„ 9798 „ (L/Cp.) Woodward
„ 804 „ Parker
„ 873 „ Dixon
„ 8715 Bandsman Ramshaw
„ 590 Pte. King
„ 1491 „ (L/Cp.) Drayson
„ 9477 „ Sole
„ 1168 „ (L/Cp.) Knapp
„ 1446 „ „ Harvey
„ 1270 „ „ Chilton
„ 838 „ Powell
„ 27 „ Archer
„ 8183 Bandsman Denton
„ 975 Pte. Ford
„ 1138 „ Groves

No. 9806 Pte. Kealey
„ 181 „ (L/Cp.) Paterson
„ 999 „ Rand
„ 941 „ Tudor
„ 979 „ Wheway
„ 6937 Drummer Woodward
„ 9279 Pte. (L/Cp.) Warner
„ 340 „ Clements
„ 8738 Drummer Mulligan
„ 866 Pte. (L/Cp.) Clark
„ 1137 „ „ Wilkinson
„ 730 „ Rose
„ 1131 „ (L/Cp.) Jackson
„ 782 „ King
„ 1617 „ (L/Cp.) Rumley
„ 1109 „ Abthorpe
„ 2833 „ Annetts
„ 9264 „ Arkless
„ 1146 „ Brine
„ 1230 „ Clarke
„ 1023 „ Curtin
„ 874 „ Edwards
„ 1440 „ (L/Cp.) Ellis
„ 421 „ Glew
„ 1024 „ Lampkin
„ 9596 „ Mann
„ 9949 „ (L/Cp.) Wodehouse
„ 964 „ (L/Cp.) Weaterton
„ 7079 „ „ Robertson
„ 823 „ „ Gillespie
„ 1766 Drummer Hitchins
„ 894 Pte. (L/Cp.) Pearce
„ 1130 „ „ Smith
„ 9920 Drummer Quinn
„ 7735 Bandsman Seavers
„ 7716 „ Russell
„ 8182 Pte. (L/Cp.) Jacobs
„ 937 „ Mattison
„ 1449 „ (L/Cp.) Insley
„ 1359 „ „ Wood
„ 1333 „ Walker
„ 1356 „ Vevers
„ 232 „ Phillips
„ 8690 „ Heywood

No. 8858 Bandsman Harrison
„ 419 Pte. Hayes
„ 833 „ Jefferies
„ 634 „ Jenkins
No. 9759 Pte. Parmenter
„ 963 „ Luker
„ 871 „ Gundy
„ 65 „ Bottom
No. 1105 Drummer Wray

No. 9778 Lance-Corporal J. Harris extended his service to complete 12 years' service with the Colours, dated the 22nd ult.

No. 6940 Bandsman H. V. Seavers transferred to the Indian Unattached List for employment as a Musician in H.E. the Viceroy's Band.

No. 7811 Private T. W. Nightingale re-engaged at Mhow, for the Northumberland Fusiliers, to complete 21 years' service, dated the 8th ult.

The following Promotions and Appointments have been made :—

To be Sergeant :—

No. 6080 Lance-Sergeant B. Litchfield from 3/4/12

To be paid Lance-Sergeant :—

No. 875 Corporal P. J. Griffin from 3/4/12

To be Corporals :—

No. 1922 Lance-Corporal W. Pattison from 3/4/12
„ 9279 „ C. W. Warner „ 3/4/12

To be paid Lance-Corporals :—

No. 2961 Lance-Corporal G. Garland from 3/4/12
„ 2349 „ C. Dennett „ 3/4/12
„ 3058 „ G. Fulton „ 9/4/12
„ 2006 „ G. Newton „ 16/4/12

Certificates of Education have been awarded as under :—

2nd Class :—

No. 2072 Pte. E. Johnston
No. 2408 Pte. G. Agonbar
No. 2783 Private G. Gray

3rd Class :—

No. 2523 Pte. T. Reed
„ 2544 „ W. Brooks
„ 2555 „ G. Bussey
„ 2532 „ L. Brown
No. 2501 Pte. T. Lawson
„ 1971 „ H. Wiltshire
„ 2685 „ F. Scrimshaw
„ 2824 „ J. Kinney

Good Conduct Badges have been awarded as under :—

No. 972	Pte.	P. Webster	2	from 3/3/10
„ 1132	„	P. Coe	2	„ 6/4/10
„ 928	„	Austin	2	„ 1/4/11
„ 1967	„	A. Cox	2	„ 31/5/11
„ 3025	„	R. Rogers	1	„ 5/1/12
„ 1988	„	W. King	2	„ 30/1/12
„ 2783	„	Gray	1	„ 28/2/12
„ 1274	„	A. Lee	2	„ 9/3/12
„ 2789	„	S. Cundell	1	„ 9/3/12
„ 757	„	S. Phillipson	2	„ 12/3/12
„ 2686	„	Douglas	1	„ 18/3/12
„ 2757	„	A. Crawford	1	„ 22/3/12
„ 895	„	H. Jarvis	2	„ 23/3/12
„ 1993	„	S. Lee	2	„ 23/3/12
„ 2796	„	G. Stephenson	1	„ 29/3/12
„ 2281	„	W. Kerner	1	„ 1/4/12
„ 1827	„	D. Flanagan	2	„ 7/4/12
„ 2629	„	E. Bryan	1	„ 14/4/12
„ 1500	„	Vernon	2	„ 16/4/12

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SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

Sergeant Ashmore has gone to Mount Abu, a convalescent station, for duty.

Sergeant G. Hills has gone to Satara as 2nd class Instructor at the School of Musketry.

Notwithstanding previous failures through want of sufficient native talent in the way of smoking concerts, it was decided to risk the celebration of St. George's Day by another. Fortunately we struck a rich vein in the Garrison, and some new-found-outs in our own circle helped to pass a very pleasant evening. "Selected" seemed to be the most popular item on the programme. When so many were excellent it would be out of place to particularise. Therefore when I state that Sergeants Duncan, Walton and Luke of our own, and Sergeant-Major Austen and Trumpet-Major Abrahams, of the 14th Hussars, also Schoolmasters Charman and Weightman, contributed to the success of the evening, I think I have mentioned all there is to do, except perhaps, that Sergeant-Major Wooll made a brief and very happy speech at half-time.

2nd Battalion Notes.

HILLSBOROUGH BARRACKS, SHEFFIELD,
24th May, 1912.

ON the 6th May the Annual Musketry Camp at Totley was opened, E and F Companies with the Band and machine gun section marching there from Sheffield; D and H Companies and the Signallers proceeding by train from Pontefract.

Up to the present the weather for shooting has been all that could be desired, with the exception of a heavy storm on the 15th and 16th; the Officers' Mess dining tents and one of the men's dining tents being wrecked in an exceptionally heavy squall, whilst a certain attached officer awoke in the morning to find that his tent had collapsed in the night. All being well we commence classification practices on Tuesday next, the 21st.

F COMPANY SECOND BATTALION, FIELD TRAINING, 1912.

E COMPANY SECOND BATTALION, FIELD TRAINING, 1912.

Owing to the Battalion being still split up, it has been decided this year to abandon the Battalion Rifle Meeting, substituting smaller rifle meetings for each Company, the Band and Signallers to count as a company. D and H Companies held their meeting on the 17th, in rather windy weather; E, F and the Band meetings take place on the 20th.

We regret that the result of the Officers v. Sergeants football match was omitted from last month's notes. At time the result was three all, and on extra time being played the match resulted in a win for the Sergeants by 6—4. Sergeant Hiorns was in great form for the Sergeants; for the losers Lieutenant Molineux played well at centre-forward and Colonel Enderby played a great game in goal.

We will pass over the results of the Officers' Inter-Regimental Golf Competition in silence; most of our readers will have probably seen them in the daily papers.

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Another of our officers has been laid low by the prevailing epidemic of appendicitis. Lieutenant Mahon was taken suddenly ill on the 16th, and had to be operated on the same afternoon. We are glad to hear that he is getting on as well as can be expected so soon after the operation.

On the 30th April the Annual Inter-Company Cross-Country Race took place at Sheffield over a somewhat hilly course of about six miles; the winning Company in this race holds the Battalion Running Shield for the year; this shield was originally the old 3rd Battalion Inter-Company Football Trophy.

The conditions this year were teams of 15 from each Company, a field of 120 men facing the starter. An excellent race resulted in a win for H Company by a large margin for the second year in succession. The individual results were as follows:—

1st—Private Norman	H	Company
2nd—Lance-Corporal Earl	H	„
3rd—Private Forrest	B	„
4th— „ Leith	B	„
5th—Lance-Corporal Geradine	H	„
6th—Sergeant Fletcher	H	„

Results by Companies:—

1st—H Company.

	Order in.		Order in.
Private Norman ...	1st	Private Falcus ...	48th
Lance-Corpl. Earl ...	2nd	„ Burrows ...	49th
„ Geradine	5th	Lance-Corpl. Jordan...	50th
Sergeant Fletcher ...	6th	„ Shepherd	54th
Private Spencer ...	11th	Private Hynes ...	69th
„ Gold	16th	Corporal Vale... ...	97th
„ Shorten ...	18th		
„ Bolton... ...	20th		
„ Smith	21st	Total points ...	467

2nd—B Company	... ...	641 points
3rd—A „	... ...	834 „
4th—C „	... ...	992 „
5th—E „	... ...	993 „
6th—D „	... ...	1056 „
7th—F „	... ...	1133 „
8th—G „	... ...	——

An Inter-Company Tug-of-War League has been started in the Battalion, teams to consist of ten men not exceeding 110 stone. Each Company to pull the best of three pulls with every other Company. The best two Companies after two rounds to compete for the Battalion Championship at the Regimental Sports. Results to date:—

April	27th—E	Company	beat	G	Company	(2 pulls	to 0)
„	27th—A	„	„	F	„	(2 „	1)
May	4th—E	„	„	A	„	(2 „	0)
„	4th—F	„	„	G	„	(2 „	0)
„	11th—A	„	„	G	„	(2 „	0)
„	18th—A	„	„	C	„	(2 „	0)

C Company are greatly handicapped by being split up between Sheffield and Fleetwood.

The following are the results of the Company Rifle Meetings up to the present date:—

D COMPANY (Captain Warwick).

Fired at Totley, May 17th.

INTER-SECTION COMPETITION

1—No. 6 (Corporal O'Hara)...	152
2— „ 1 (Lance-Corporal Clark)	132
3— „ 4 („ Glasspole ...	110

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION.

1.—Aggregate, 500yds. and 400yds.

CLASS I.

1—Corporal O'Hara	37
2—Private Hooson	30
3— „ Revell	29

CLASS II.

1—Private Baker	34
2—Lance-Corporal Glasspole	29
3—Private Turner	25

2.—Snapshooting, 200yds. (Fig. 3 target).

CLASS I.

1—Corporal O'Hara	20
2—Lance-Corporal George	16
3—Private Hooson	16
„ Douglas	16

Divide 2nd and 3rd prizes.

CLASS II.

Lance-Corporal Glasspole	16
Private Walker	16
„ Tyson	16
„ Redman	16

Divide 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes.

3.—Rapid Firing, 300yds. (10 rounds; 40 seconds).

CLASS I.

1—Private Harris	35
2—Corporal O'Hara	29
3— „ Redhead	28

CLASS II.

1—Corporal Musgrove	31
2—Lance-Corporal Gammon	29
3—Private Robinson...	26

H COMPANY (Captain Hart).

Fired at Totley, May 17th.

INTER-SECTION COMPETITION.

1—Sergeant Mitchesons	182

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS.

1.—Aggregate, 500yds. and 400yds. (5 rounds each distance).

CLASS I.

1—Lance-Corporal Geradine	31

CLASS II.

1—Private Coultard	26 tied
2— „ Richardson	26 tied

2.—Rapid Firing, 300yds. (10 rounds; Class I., 40 seconds; Class II., 60 seconds.

CLASS I.

1—Sergeant Fletcher	26
2—Private Dalton	24

CLASS II.

1—Private Coultard	31 tied
2— „ Richardson	31 tied
3— „ Shorten	29

3.—Snapshooting, 200yds. (Fig. 3 target).

CLASS I.

1—Lance-Corporal Geradine	15 tied
2—Private Dalton	15 tied

CLASS II.

1—Private Shorten	15
2— „ Rush	12
2— „ Boulton	12

4.—Aggregate.

CLASS I.

1—Private Dalton	67
2—Lance-Corporal Geradine	66

CLASS II.

1—Private Richardson	66
2— „ Coultard	66

E COMPANY (Major Turner).

Fired at Totley, May 20th.

INTER-SECTION COMPETITION.

1—No. 3 (Sergeant Duncan)	187
2— „ 4 (Lance-Sergeant Trenam) ...	182

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INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS.

1.—SLOW, 200YDS. (2nd class target).

CLASS II.

1—	Drummer Hughes	19
2—	Private Trott	18
3—	„ Ironside	17

2.—SNAPSHOOTING, 200YDS. (Fig. 3 target).

CLASS I.

1	Lance-Sergeant Trenam...	12
1	Private Hazon	12
3	Lance-Sergeant Pincher	9
3	Private Henry	9
3	„ Wilkinson	9
3	„ Duff	9

3.—RAPID FIRING, 300YDS. (5 rounds; 20 seconds).

CLASS I.

1—	Private Bullock	16
2	Corporal Wood	15
2	Private Wilkinson	15
2	Lance-Sergeant Pincher...	15

CLASS II.

1—	Private Fuller	17
2—	„ Broadley	16
3	„ Calvert	15
3	„ Leith	15

4.—SLOW, 400YDS. (2nd class target).

BOTH CLASSES.

1	Lance-Sergeant Pincher...	17
1	Lance-Corporal Raison	17
3—	Corporal Capstaff...	16
4	Lance-Corporal Workman	15
4	Private Wilson	15
4	„ Duff	15
4	Corporal Raison	15

AGGREGATE.

CLASS I.

	Lance-Sergeant Pincher	41

CLASS II.

	Private Horner	43

F COMPANY (CAPTAIN A. C. L. H. JONES).

Fired at Totley, May 20th.

INTER-SECTION COMPETITION.

1—	No. 1 (Sergeant Corrighan)	187
2—	„ 2 („ Johnston)	123

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS.

1.—SLOW, 200YDS.

CLASS II.

1—	Lance-Corporal Dodds	18
2—	Private Smith	18
3—	„ Thompson	18
4—	„ Waller	18

After shooting off ties.

2.—SNAPSHOOTING, 200YDS. (Fig. 3 target).

CLASS I.

1—	Sergeant Johnston	12
2	„ Todd	9
2 and 3	Private Bowles	9
2 and 3	„ Coult	9
2 and 3	„ Reavell	9

3.—RAPID FIRING, 300YDS. (5 rounds; 20 seconds).

CLASS I.

1—	Lance-Sergeant Todd	14
2—	Lance-Corporal Clay	14
3—	„ Taylor	13

After shooting off tie.

CLASS II.

1—	Corporal Lynam	14
2—	Private Daykin	14

Divide prizes.

4.—SLOW, 400YDS. (2nd class target).

BOTH CLASSES.

1—	Lance-Sergeant Todd	16
2—	Private Waller	16
3—	„ Tweedy	15
4—	Sergeant Corrighan	15
5—	Private Topping	15
6—	„ McCorkindale	15

BAND AND SIGNALLERS.

Fired at Totley, May 20th.

INTER-SECTION COMPETITION.

1—	No. 1 (Sergeant Slater)	175

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS.

1.—SLOW, 400YDS. (2nd class target).

CLASS I.

1—	Private Graham	19
2—	Bandsman Carter	16
3—	Private Coxon	16

CLASS II.

1—	Bandsman Crann...	18
2—	Private Watson	15
3—	Lance-Corporal Bailey	15

2.—SNAPSHOOTING, 200YDS. (Fig. 3 target).

CLASS I.

		Hits.
1—	Private Sutton	4
2—	„ Cawdray	3
3—	„ Barratt	2

CLASS II.

1—	Private Keene	5
2—	„ Watson	2
3—	„ Burnett	1

3.—RAPID FIRING, 300YDS. (10 rounds).

CLASS I.

1—	Private England	28

CLASS II.

1—	Private Moore	28
2—	„ Ennis	26

All the Companies fired their Inter-Section Competitions under the Company Match A.R.A. conditions, except the Band, who fired under the Queen Victoria's Cup conditions. In the Individual Competitions, Class I. in every case consisted of marksmen and 1st class shots, Class II. of 2nd and 3rd class and men not previously classified in Table B.

E, F and the Band fired in very bad weather conditions, heavy rain falling. This accounted for the low scores.

The following have left the Service during the month :—

No. 6537 Lance-Corporal J. SPARKES.—Enlisted, 21/5/00; discharged 20/6/12; service, 12 years; served in 2nd and 4th Battalions.

No. 6530 Private H. MOWATT.—Enlisted, 16/5/00; discharged, 15/5/12; service, 12 years; served in 2nd and 4th Battalions.

No. 6531 Lance-Corporal C. MUDD.—Enlisted, 16/5/00; discharged, 15/5/12; service, 12 years; served in 2nd and 4th Battalions.

No. 1914 Private E. W. GULLIVER.—By purchase on 11/5/12; service, 6 years; served in 2nd Battalion.

Certificates of Education have been awarded as follows :—

2nd Class :—

(dated Sheffield, 6/5/12)

No. 3315 Private P. Cyster No. 3359 Private F. Robinson

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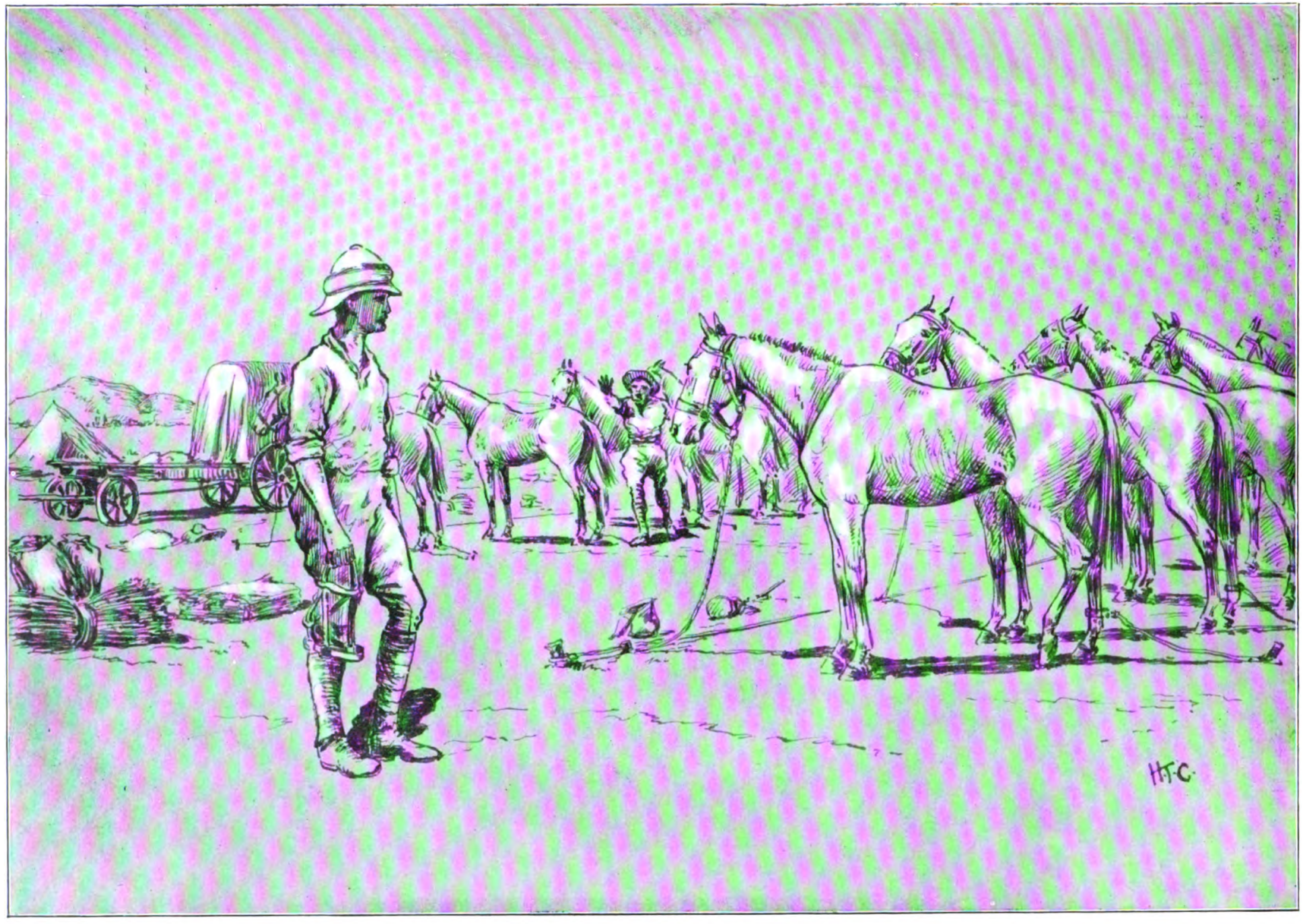

That is what we are known as—we are the orphans they blame
For beggin' the loan of an 'ead-stall an' makin' a mount to the same;
Can't even look at an 'orselines but some one goes bellerin' Hi!
'Ere comes a burglin' Ikona! "Footsack you—— M.I.!"

RUDYARD KIPLING.

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3rd Class :—

(dated Sheffield, 6/5/12)

No. 3316	Private	C. Forrest	No. 3382	Private	C. McCune
„ 3149	„	O. Chase	„ 3375	„	G. Roberts
„ 3391	„	F. Forrest	„ 3409	„	W. Murray
„ 3021	„	T. French	„ 3350	„	O. Neill
„ 3371	„	A. Jardine	„ 3369	Boy	W. Bishop

The following Appointments have been made :—

To be paid Lance-Corporals :—

No. 2372	Lance-Corporal	J. Clark	from 19/4/12
„ 2577	„	J. Fitzgerald	„ 19/4/12

To be unpaid Lance-Corporals :—

No. 2499	Private	J. Pantry	from 8/5/12
„ 2816	„	T. Crawford	„ 8/5/12
„ 3002	„	A. Waters	„ 8/5/12
„ 3179	„	C. Massey	„ 8/5/12
„ 3318	„	R. Burkett	„ 8/5/12
„ 3153	„	H. Raison	„ 11/5/12
„ 3070	„	D. Mothersdale	„ 15/5/12

The undermentioned non-commissioned officers and men were transferred to the Army Reserve on conversion of service under War Office letter, dated 29/4/12 :—

No. 1034	Lce.-Sgt.	E. Peace	No. 2075	Pte.	C. Dickeson
„ 1015	Cpl.	W. Davidson	„ 2095	„	A. Reed
„ 2841	Lce.-Cpl.	H. Atkin	„ 2107	„	C. Scott
„ 2106	„	P. Black	„ 2760	„	T. Bell
„ 1167	„	C. Claxton	„ 792	„	G. Hazon
„ 636	Pte.	J. Patterson	„ 1379	„	P. Evans
„ 1103	„	W. Wiles	„ 1443	„	J. Robinson
„ 1269	„	E. Bullock	„ 2017	„	R. Gold
„ 1402	„	R. Ramsey	„ 2057	„	J. Wilkinson
„ 1546	„	H. Engall	„ 2108	„	A. Grimes

CRICKET.

5th Fusiliers v. Clumber Park.

The above was our first match of the season and was played at Clumber Park on the 18th inst., our opponents winning somewhat easily.

FIFTH FUSILIERS.

Mr. G. K. Molineux, c Schmidt, b Hawkins ...	7
Major H. S. Ainsle, st Armitage, b Hawkins ...	0
Mr. W. H. C. Brownlow, b Crutchley	5
Colonel S. H. Enderby, b Hawkins	10
Mr. H. L. F. Nicholls, b Crutchley	8
Captain A. C. Hart, c Crutchley, b Hawkins ...	0
Private Broadley, b Hawkins	3
Mr. W. P. H. Rushbrooke, c Tarr, b Crutchley...	8
„ J. Adock, not out	2
„ H. R. Barkworth, c and b Hawkins... ...	1
„ C. C. Shipley, b Hawkins	3
Total	47

CLUMBER PARK.

Mr. F. Holdsworth, b Nicholls	4
„ R. Schmidt, b Nicholls	4
„ J. Crutchley, c Molineux, b Nicholls ...	4
„ V. Armitage, b Shipley	26
„ C. Sherburn, b Nicholls	19
„ J. Gabbitas, b Molineux	23
Rev. F. E. Hawkins, lbw, b Ainslie	16
Mr. S. Barker, c Hart, b Ainslie	15
„ H. Salmon, run out	7
„ J. Tarr, not out	3
„ G. Cook, c Hart, b Molineux...	0
Extras	4
Total	125

2nd Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes.

The Hutments, Fleetwood,
24th May, 1912.

THE Huts have been well occupied during the month, the following Depôts having carried out their musketry training on the Fleetwood Ranges :—The King's Own Lancaster Regiment from Lancaster, the King's Liverpool Regiment from Warrington, and the Lancashire Fusiliers from Bury.

The Depôt the King's Liverpool Regiment challenged the Detachment to a football match. After a very pleasant game the result was a draw, the unusually large number of four goals being scored by each side.

The men attached from B and D Companies have just completed their musketry. Private Fossey, D Company, shot well, scoring forty-two in the rapid practice, he being the only marksman. Private Grey, B Company, was unfortunate, failing to gain the coveted decoration by one point.

The Battalion representative of the Union Jack Club being with the Fleetwood Detachment, was sent to London to represent the Battalion at the Annual Meeting held in the Union Jack Club, on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at 8.30 p.m. The chair was taken by Colonel Sir Edward Ward (Secretary to the Army Council), being supported by Field-Marshal Lord Methuen, Colonel The Right Hon. J. E. B. Seely (Under Secretary of State for War), and many other influential gentlemen. The meeting was well attended, there being about 100 representatives present from the Units of the Navy and Army. Lord Methuen spoke at some length on the good work done by the Union Jack Club, also mentioning how it became possible for the Directors of the South African Garrison Institute to present £5,000 to the Club a few years ago towards paying off the loss of the extension wing of the Club. Colonel Seely also spoke in his best Parliamentary style, and his speech was much appreciated by all present. The meeting proved that the Union Jack Club is a great success, both financially and for the comfort of its members. As regards the former a good balance has been carried forward to the next account; and the way the comfort of its members is catered for by the staff was testified to by many members present, and also to the excellent work performed by Major E. F. O. Gascoigne, D.S.O., the Comptroller of the Club.

It might interest many in the Regiment to learn that there are four bedrooms in the Union Jack Club named after the Regiment as follows :—

Number 168. Presented by Past and Present Members and friends 5th Fusiliers.

„ 225. Presented by the 36th Battalion Imperial Yeomanry.

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Number 263. Presented by the Countess of Longford, in memory of the Earl of Longford, sometime Major 7th Royal Fusiliers (Colonel, 5th Fusiliers).

„ 330. Presented by Old Comrades of the 5th Fusiliers, in memory of Major-General St. G. C. Henry, C.B.

To those who have not seen the Union Jack Club it is well worth a visit if only for inspection.

Depôt Notes.

THE BARRACKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
20th May, 1912.

THE dutymen, under Captain Wreford Brown and Lieutenants Gibson and Sidney, proceeded to Whitley Bay on the 1st inst. for their Annual Musketry Course. The weather on the whole was good and results were above the average.

Golf has been the principal pastime lately and we have been playing at Gosforth, Newbiggin, Blyth and Whitley Bay.

The Colonel Commanding No. 5 District made his quarterly inspection of the Depôt on the 1st inst.

We were very glad to hear that Captain Toppin, employed under the Foreign Office on the Peru-Bolivian Boundary Commission, was well in spite of hardships and hard work. We wish him all success and a speedy return.

No. 3400 Private L. Green has been awarded the silver medal for long service and good conduct with gratuity.

A draft of fifty recruits was posted to the 2nd Battalion with effect from the 27th ult.

The undermentioned have been awarded Certificates of Education as stated, dated Newcastle-on-Tyne, the 26th April, 1912:—

2nd Class:—

No. 3348	Private	R. Fraser	No. 3366	Private	W. Harbach
„ 3376	„	C. Berry	„ 8120	„	J. Onion

3rd Class:—

No. 3406	Private	P. Powers	No. 3383	Private	A. Robson
„ 3305	„	H. Binks	„ 3313	„	H. Wiltcher
„ 3377	„	G. Banks	„ 3390	„	J. McConnell
„ 8105	„	J. Diggins	„ 8093	„	J. Lynch
„ 3398	„	G. Wilkinson	„ 8094	„	G. Mooney
			No. 8117	Private	A. Payne

A draft of fifteen recruits was posted to the 2nd Battalion with effect from 4th May, 1912.

5th Battalion Notes.

HEADQUARTERS, WALKER-ON-TYNE,
23rd May, 1912.

ON Sunday, the 28th ult., the Headquarters Companies paraded at the Drill Hall and marched to Wallsend where they were joined by the three Companies from Wallsend Detachment; there were upwards of 300 on parade, with the Drum and Fife Band in attendance. The Battalion attended divine service at St. Luke's, Wallsend.

The St. George's Ball, held by the Staff-Sergeants and Sergeants of the Battalion at Walker, was highly successful.

Wallsend Detachment held a march out on the 25th inst., and on Monday, the 13th inst., the Battalion marched to Howden and back with the object of bringing the three Companies up to full strength before camp. Up to the present we have obtained 100 recruits and the Drill Hall now presents an animated spectacle with company training and recruit drill carried on nightly. The attendance at company parades has been well up to the standard.

We offer a hearty welcome to Second-Lieutenants Kinsella and Dodds who have been recently Gazetted and posted to D Company.

Gosforth Detachment have now some fifty recruits attending their preliminary drill. Company training is in full swing and there are large musters of trained men at Gosforth and also at the two outlying detachments, West Moor and Seaton Burn. The Gosforth men have the advantage of the Town Moor for their advanced drill.

We have again made a start in musketry at Whitley Bay Range, and last Saturday was devoted to the recruits when upwards of 100 were able to get through. We hope to put through the remainder on Saturday, 1st prox.

7th Battalion Notes.

ALNWICK,
23rd May, 1912.

MAJOR G. Reavell has been granted leave of absence from the 20th inst. to the 4th prox. for the purpose of travelling in France, Switzerland and Italy.

The Companies are increasing steadily and there is every reason to expect a good muster at Scarborough in June.

E Company held a successful week-end camp at Morpeth on the 11th and 12th inst.

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No. 5478 Sergeant-Instructor T. Robinson has been appointed Acting-Sergeant-Major to the Battalion from the 12th ult.

No. 5478 Acting-Sergeant-Major T. Robinson has been moved from Ashington to Alnwick and No. 8434 Sergeant-Instructor H. Richardson, Alnwick to Ashington.

Editorial Notes.

26, Hans Crescent,
London, S.W.
25th May, 1912.

WE publish this month among our correspondence a letter from an old 5th Fusilier, Mr. S. C. Bishop, who asks for information regarding the rules and regulations of any society dealing with ex-soldiers. As will be seen from his letter a society has been started in Melbourne for the benefit of Army Pensioners of whom there are 275 and of Army Reservists nearly 200 in Victoria alone and these belong to seventy-eight different regiments, four of them to the 5th Fusiliers, two to each Battalion. Mr. Bishop, whose reminiscences we hope to publish soon would be glad of the information he asks for which, no doubt, some of our readers can supply.

We have received the following extract from *The Sheffield Daily Telegraph* of May 6th :—

"TITANIC" CONCERT.

Military Programme at the Hippodrome.

"The Sheffield Hippodrome was crowded in every quarter last night for the Military Concert arranged by Mr. Frank Poole, the manager. Mr. W. F. Cooper brought his full band of sixty performers and gave a fine programme of music which was appreciated with the keenest enthusiasm. Many who had had the opportunity of hearing the band at the charity concert given on the previous Sunday availed themselves of the welcome chance of again attending the Hippodrome last night. That they were not disappointed was clearly shown by the cordiality with which the efforts of the band were recognised. The programme opened with a spirited rendering of the 'Grand March,' 'Invocation to Battle' in Rienzi (Wagner) and this was followed by the overture of "Tannhauser" (one of the best performances of the evening). The general balance of the band and tone colour was altogether satisfying. The band does not indulge in the tricks of sensationalism and they do not depend upon noise for effect, due proportion of balance is always observed and they play with a nice musical restraint which pleases. They are undoubtedly a first class body of instrumentalists, well trained and musicianly. It is expected that something like £80 will be forwarded to *The Sheffield Telegraph* 'Titanic' Fund."

While we have not space to print the very excellent programme provided for the concert in aid of the sufferers from the *Titanic* disaster we take this opportunity of congratulating the Band of the 2nd Battalion and all concerned in what must have been a very fine performance; by no means their first nor, let us hope, their last in Sheffield where their talent is highly appreciated.

It is our pleasant duty further to offer congratulations to Lieutenant and Quartermaster Allan on the success of his nephew Mr. Alan Perry, son of Colour-Sergeant H. Perry, 1st Battalion and late Sergeant-Major 1st V.B. Northumberland Fusiliers. The following extract from the *London Hospital Gazette* of April, 1912, shows the extent of Mr. Perry's achievements :—

"Alan C. Perry is to be heartily congratulated in securing the Begley Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded triennially to the student who most excels in Anatomy in the second conjoint examination. Its value is £20 for three years. Out of the four distinctions awarded in the second examination of the London University, Perry secured three, namely Anatomy, Physiology and Pharmacology."

We take the following from the *Morning Post* :—"A marriage has been arranged and will take place in July between Colonel the Hon. Charles Lambton, D.S.O., and Marion, eldest daughter of Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. Garforth, of Westow Hall, York." The Editor offers his hearty congratulations to Colonel Lambton on his engagement and wishes him every happiness.

Letters to the Editor.

Koornang Road, Carnegie,
Nr. Melbourne,
Victoria, Australia,
9th April, 1912.

Sir,—Will any of your readers kindly supply me with information as to the rules and working of any Association now in operation in England for the social welfare of discharged soldiers and reservists, not being Crimean or Indian Mutiny veterans.

We have recently formed an association in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, and called it the "Imperial Army Association of Victoria," and amongst its rules are :—

To encourage a spirit of loyalty to the King.

To band together in good will and sympathy all discharged soldiers of the Imperial Army and reservists who have been discharged with a good character and have such now.

To obtain funds for the assistance of distressed members after investigation.

To grant aids when necessary to provide that no soldier be buried as a pauper.

To hold Social Re-unions.

In addition to which we will endeavour to assist them in procuring employment and to advise them when first landing in the Colony.

There is no Association here except this, though in the other States of the Commonwealth there are for veterans who quitted the Service prior to 1865, and these are fast disappearing through death.

Any information will be gladly received by

Yours faithfully,
S. C. Bishop,
Honorary Secretary.

Fort George, Inverness-shire, N.B.,
St. George's Day, 23rd April, 1912.

Dear Mr. Editor,—I enclose you an extract from the book "With Kitchener to Khartum," by G. W. Steevens, as I am sure many of your readers will be interested to read it. I have come in contact with so many soldiers who have served under Colonel Sitwell in Africa and India, and have been so often asked concerning his war services, that perhaps this little extract would not be out of place in the pages of the *St. George's Gazette*.

Yours truly,
F. R. G. Forsyth,
Seaforth Highlanders, late 5th Fusiliers

"THE CONCENTRATION BY ATBARA.

"And now we were concentrated, and only waited for them

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to come on. And, wonderful beyond all hope, they were coming on. The indispensable gun-boats, tirelessly patrolling the river, kept the Sirdar fully informed of everything. On Shebaliya Island, forty miles south of the Atbara, they had slung an angareb aloft between a couple of spars. The Dervishes' route led within twelve hundred yards of it. There they passed everlastingly—men, women, and children; horses, goats, and donkeys, singing and braying, flying their banners, thrumming their war-drums, booming their melancholy war-horn. And on the angareb, under an umbrella, sat a man and counted them. There was reason to hope that they were little short of 20,000.

"Conformably with the traditions of the gunboat service, things did not stop at counting. On the 13th Bimbashi Sitwell and a section of the 4th Egyptians landed from the *Fatha*, Lieutenant Beatty's boat, and attacked a large force which had crossed to the island. There were about 1,000 Dervishes and 40 Egyptians, but neither of the united services saw anything irregular in the proceedings. In face of the swarm of enemies Bimbashi Sitwell led his men into a ditch, whence they kept up a steady fire. Suddenly he felt a tremendous blow on his shoulder; he thought one of the soldiers had let his rifle out of hand, but turning round to swear, found himself on his back. Then he heard the voice of Lieutenant Beatty, R.N.: 'It's all right,' it said: 'we're doing 'em proper.' 'Make it so,' he replied nautically, and then, hearing a new burst of fire from the right, 'You'd better order up a few more file, and turn them out of that.' The next thing he knew, after the blank, was that they were turned out of that, and that 38 of them were dead, which was very nearly one each for the 40 Egyptians.

Bimbashi Sitwell had a well-furnished pair of shoulders. The bullet ran through both, but missed the spine. Four days after he was receiving visitors at Fort Atbara in pyjamas and a cigarette. Which was a happy issue to perhaps the most staggeringly audacious of all the audacities perpetrated by the gunboats on the Nile."

8, Higham Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne,
16th May, 1912.

Dear Sir,—The Executive Committee Northumberland Fusiliers Aid Society beg to acknowledge with thanks the following additional subscriptions for 1912:—

	£	s.	d.
Previously acknowledged	84	13	0
Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Longbourne	5	0	0
Major G. M. Harding	1	1	0
Captain A. W. Rickman	1	0	0
Major A. J. B. Percival, D.S.O.	3	0	0
,, G. F. T. Leather	5	0	0
,, B. T. Buckley	1	1	0
,, F. W. Cubitt	1	1	0
,, F. B. Morley	1	1	0
Colonel H. A. Cherry	1	0	0
Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. C. Somerville	2	0	0
Major Hon. M. O'Brien, M.V.O., D.S.O.	2	0	0
Total	£107	17	0

Notice.

The Annual Meeting of the General Committee and Subscribers will be held at 155, Ashley Gardens, S.W., at 3 p.m., on the 6th June, and not at the U.S. Institution as previously notified.

Yours truly,
Jas. Thomson, Major,
Secretary.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY.

EXTRACTS FROM *ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE*, MAY 31st, 1887.

Newry, Tuesday, 31st May, 1887.—1st Battalion Notes.—The Annual Regimental Dinner was held at Limmer's Hotel on the 26th inst., at which the following officers were present:—Generals Laye, Milman, Roberts, Kirkland, Harkness; Colonels Carden, Fitzroy; Lieutenant-Colonels Robinson, Pearse-Hobbs, Eardley-Wilmot; Majors Darley, Hargreave, Heathcote, Cherry, Kilgour, Auld, Lambart; Messrs. Miles, Richards, C. L. Dashwood, Barron; Doctors Close, Swettenham; Captains Hon. C. Lambton, Harding, E. W. Dashwood; Lieutenants Whitaker, Sitwell, Willmott and Dawkins.

The Queen's Birthday was celebrated on the 24th inst. with the usual parade and *feu-de-joie*, the big gun being also fired once to the detriment of a few panes of glass in the Officers' Quarters.

On the 4th inst. a Horse Fair was held here, which we believe is the first that has ever taken place at Newry, but the promoters hope to keep them up regularly in future. There was a large number of entries, and the prizes amounted to £70, which sum was subscribed by the leading gentry and tradesmen of Newry. After the judging the prize horses and ponies were paraded and some jumping competitions took place, but owing to the eagerness of the crowd to be all in the front row, it was with the greatest difficulty that the stewards, who acted with wonderfully good humour, could clear a lane for the horses to get up to the fence and stone wall.

The following appeared in the Garrison Instructor's Report on Field Sketching and Reconnaissance during the past winter, which is very creditable to all concerned:—"1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers—A vast amount of work has been executed in this regiment, and much trouble appears to have been taken by Major Boxwell in charge of a class of non-commissioned officers, also by the Commanding Officer . . . . . I have selected sketches done by Lieutenant Casson, Lieutenant Leather, Colour-Sergeant Bett and Lance-Corporal Laidler."

3rd Battalion Notes.—The recruits for the preliminary drill assembled at Alnwick on the 2nd inst. The following officers were present:—Major and Adjutant H. Kilgour, Commanding; Hon. Major Ilderton; Lieutenants the Hon. R. C. Jervis, H. Johnston, D. A. N. Lomax; 2nd Lieutenants C. A. Gordon, A. E. C. Grey; Quartermaster J. S. Cartwright.

Depôt Notes.—H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge arrived at Newcastle Station at 5 p.m. on Monday, the 11th inst. He was received by the Mayor and Corporation and Colonel Rowland, C.B., accompanied by heads of departments. . . . . On Wednesday, we furnished a Guard of Honour at the station, under Lieutenant Neville, with Lieutenant Oldfield as subaltern. The following are the details of the guard:—Twenty-nine trained soldiers, twenty-five recruits; number of Good Conduct badges, seventy-six; number of Medals, 20; average height of the whole guard about 5ft. 8⅝in.

THE GROUSER TO SOCRATES.

A REJOINDER.

Your rhyming's good so I'll o'erlook the scansion
That somehow puzzles me a little bit.
The poem's drift perhaps requires an answer,
But don't suppose that you have scored a hit.

When have you ever heard me grouse at Cape Town?
The finest hunting I have ever had,
Where Keating's Powder took the place of bullets,
And where the ladies really weren't so bad.

Enough! 'twere idle toil to take your statements
And then rebut them singly one by one.
For, after all, it's not so much the places
That make the retrospect a pleasant one.

But when your harmless butt has left for ever,
Where will you find another? There's the rub.
I take it lying down, let's hope that he will,
I'm not a member of the Bukking Club.

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FORTY YEARS' SERVICE WITH THE FIFTH FUSILIERS.

By Mr. L. WALLACE, late Bandmaster, 2nd Batt. 5th Fusiliers).

(*Continued from page 60*).

Our Barrack rooms were in the same passage as those of the Durham Light Infantry, and as they were keen on barrack-room soldiering we became very keen also in a competitive kind of way, for it would not do for the FIFTH to be put in the shade. I spent a small fortune on ours, and the lads entered into the friendly rivalry with a zest that carried all before it; the floors were constantly being scrubbed with all kinds of washing fluids till they came as white as snow, the whitewash bucket was always in use and not a speck of dust was to be found anywhere, not even on the tops of the doors. I won't say our rooms were better, but they were as clean, smart and presentable as those of our neighbours; pictures, indeed, of cleanliness and military order. We were proud of them, and even General Thynne had nothing to complain about when he inspected them. The lads could do other things too, to uphold the prestige of the Corps. They were, for instance, invincible at cricket, though every team, including the officers, tried again and again to lower their colours, and the Durham Light Infantry and our own Depôt promised to make short work of us. In spite of everything we did not lose a single match. Our stay at the Depôt had been made very pleasant for us and every assistance was given to make the Band efficient. We in return did all in our power to show our appreciation, with the result that the Band had become very popular and we had a fair share of engagements which enabled it to be kept going without asking for assistance from the Battalion. A considerable sum, however, was sent in case it should be needed, but this was banked against the rainy day which would come when the Battalion arrived home and the damages of war had to be made good. When that time did arrive our fund was in a flourishing condition just when it was needed. After a two years' stay in the North, which carried with it some pleasing recollections, we got orders to prepare ourselves to go out and join the Battalion in South Africa, but when everything had been got ready there came a cancelling order saying that the Battalion was returning home at once to Gravesend and ordering us to the same place. So we bid good-bye to the Depôt and our many friends there and in the evening marched into that nice, clean-looking town Gravesend; for it did look clean after Newcastle—and, in the soldiers' phrase, was a "blanket warmer." There we spent our time in preparing the Barracks, which had previously been used for musketry parties, for our own people's reception. It was hard work for a few lads, but they did it, and did it well, Major Thomson, our Quartermaster, supervised all the arrangements, so that was in itself a guarantee of thoroughness. Gravesend was in a ferment, and according to its newspaper articles there was only one Regiment in the world and that was the 5th Fusiliers, commonly known all the world over as the "Fighting Fifth."

One morning, after many conflicting rumours, we at last got definite news that the Battalion had landed and would arrive in the course of the evening. We were all at the Railway Station, waiting to give as hearty a welcome as possible to our comrades after their three years' hard campaigning. The Station-Master came to me and said, "This is your train coming." A few moments after we heard the thunder of its approach and got ready to do our part. Then, as it neared the station, it slowed down a little, but there was no sign of it being occupied and not a face was to be seen. However, we struck up the Regimental March, and then, like magic, every window became instantly crowded with Fusiliers. The Band had caught them napping, and its music was the first intimation that they were at their journey's end. Then came the hearty greetings and handshakes, the latter not flabby and nerveless, but with a grip in them that conveyed a message of deep feeling and of that good fellowship, which, I think, exists more in the good old Fifth than in any other Corps. The march to the Barracks was a veritable march of triumph. The flare of torches made the night like day, bands were playing, and a great crowd of people cheering themselves hoarse. All the population of the town seemed to have turned out to make the reception something to be remembered, and as our Band played a march called "Welcome Home," introducing the air "After many roving years," my mind recurred to a similar event which took place over twenty-two years before, to wit the return of the 1st Battalion from Afghanistan, which marched through Gosport en route to the forts to the same tune. The Barracks reached, the crowd soon melted away and the men settled themselves down comfortably to do justice to the good things that had been provided for their entertainment. A little time after the medals were distributed and the Battalion paraded for the occasion, and I had my first good look at them. They were a fine looking lot of men, soldiers every one, well bronzed, looking very fit and as hard as nails. Later on I saw them practising the attack, and what a difference it was to the old days, or even to the time just before the war! Sections ran at their highest speed to their new positions, bodies bent low, and on reaching their distance, were down in a flash, with noses, so to speak, buried in the sand, so that no one could have aimed a shot at them while in motion or prone. It was "the real thing," as I had never seen it done before, an illustration, in fact, of the modern fight. Others there were who viewed the home-coming with a kind of speculative curiosity. These were members of the old city firm "Fleece'em & Co.," who spoke openly in the trains of their object in being there. The men were cautioned time after time about them, but still in spite of the constant warnings, they fell into the traps laid and their hard earned savings disappeared in a flash. Sergeant Simms, in particular, lost something like a hundred pounds in addition to a well filled trunk. These unscruplous rascals were ever on the look out to catch the unwary. One of them came my way with a very plausible tale. It was after practice one afternoon, and I had gone into the Sergeants' bunk, which was used as a store room, to look over some new music, when there came a sharp rat-tat at the door. On my response, the door opened and a smart soldier-like man entered and at once began his story. He was Mr. James, he said, formerly Band Sergeant of the 1/5th, a celebrated cornet player, and had taken his discharge in Peshawar in 1879, after the Afghan war. Possibly I had heard of him? When I told him I had heard of such a cornet player in the 1st Battalion he drew himself up proudly. "That was me who used to play," he said, and mentioned several well-known cornet polkas, but lately, he went on, he had come on evil times, and several of his front teeth had been damaged as the result of an accident; consequently he was unable to find employment, so he had called on me thinking that I might interest myself with the Band on his behalf, who might subscribe sufficient to get his teeth replaced. I promised to see the Band on his account, and going into the Band-room sent for the men and explained matters, telling them what he had told me, and reminding them that bandsmen were ever good givers to those in distress, but that of course it would not do to give without being quite sure that they were not dealing with an impostor. Here our visitor interrupted with an indignant exclamation. He really seemed quite nettled over my observation. "Of course," I continued, "there are a great many of this sort about just now, as you must know, so all of you just have a good look at this man and if you haven't seen an impostor before, you see one now!" The man continued in vain to protest his genuineness, but I told them that his story was a tissue of lies, and that he had unfortunately come to the only man in the Regiment who knew James and had served many years with him. Then I called two of the bandsmen, and told them to see him to the gate and hand him over to a policeman if there was one about, but the man was off like a flash and we never saw him again. The Band enjoyed the result very much. We had nothing striking to do during our stay in this part of the world except to go up to London to line the streets when President Loubet came over to cement the "Entente Cordiale," and again when the King of Italy paid a

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ceremonial visit to England. On the first occasion we were encamped in Regents Park, where we received visits from a goodly number of old FIFTH men, amongst whom were a sprinkling of Chelsea Pensioners. The younger generation were greatly interested in these men and their histories. I noticed a group gathered round one long red coated veteran and became an interested onlooker. The men were trying to establish a connection between his service days and ours when I joined the throng, but he wouldn't have it. At last one said, "Perhaps you would remember the Bandmaster? He's an old soldier of the name of Wallace." "No, I can't say I do. But I call to my mind a boy Wallace, who was in the Band." "Surely, Childs," I said, "You remember me? I was the band-boy Wallace that you knew, and many a dose of physic I have had from you in Ferozepore and other places." He had been hospital-orderly then, but it was somewhat of a bewildering shock to Childs to see that boy represented by an elderly man, for, like many others, he had forgotten what changes time makes.

It is, I think, one of the saddest things in a Battalion when its chief leaves, and doubly so, when such a one has shared the hardships of a trying campaign with his men. It impressed me very much, the time having come for Colonel Lambton to resign his command, when I saw him making his way slowly towards the Barrack gates, turning occasionally to wave his hand in acknowledgment of the hearty cheers of the men who lined the way from the Officers' Mess to the gate. They all knew that he had been, besides their Colonel, their true friend.

And so another turn of the wheel brought us to Aldershot, but this must be in my next and concluding article.

(*To be concluded*).

1812 IN THE PENINSULA.

MAY.

(*Continued from page 62.*)

The capture of Badajos completed Lord Wellington's second move in the campaign of this year. It had been his intention now to follow Soult, who, it may be remembered, had threatened to attempt to raise the siege of Badajos, southwards and bring him to action since, for once in a way, the British troops considerably outnumbered the French. But, once more, the reliance which he had placed, however unwisely, on the Spanish authorities proved false. The Spanish engineers engaged in the repair of the defences of Ciudad Rodrigo and the replenishing of its magazines, had entirely stopped work, and the supplies placed in the hands of the Spanish officers seven weeks before had not been conveyed into the place. Further, the Spanish commander had roused by his conduct a spirit of discontent in the garrison, Almeida, the Portuguese frontier fortress was far from safe and finally Marmont's troops were already threatening these fortresses.[1]

Once again, therefore, Lord Wellington had to abandon his project and march northwards to the assistance of fortresses which, by this time, should have been self-supporting. But the situation at Badajos was very similar to that at Ciudad Rodrigo after its capture. Supplies which the fortress required were none too plentiful and the means of bringing them up strictly limited, yet these things had to be attended to before the place could be left. The work of filling up the trenches, repairing the breaches, levelling the besiegers' batteries and raising the height of the walls was at once taken in hand furnishing, no doubt, a series of heavy fatigues for the British infantry who were now considerably reduced in numbers. On the 15th April the 3rd Division was again on the march for the neighbourhood of Ciudad Rodrigo passing beneath the Castle of Badajos which it had so brilliantly captured a few days before, and in the minds of those now advancing to fresh fields of glory the recollection of the gallant spirits who had fallen in the assault must have weighed heavily and there can have been but few who did not recognise the burial places of many friends.[2] The 3rd Division numbered 2,882 men at the siege and of this number 490 officers and men fell in the assault. Though the 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment played such a conspicuous part their losses were comparatively small compared with other regiments among which may be mentioned the 45th who lost fourteen officers and the 88th who lost ten officers and 135 men.[3] Before the Division left Badajos, however, Lord Wellington had received instructions regarding the relief of the 2nd Battalions of his army, and in a despatch dated the 9th April, 1812, he remarks that "the 2nd Battalions of the 5th, 38th and 42nd Regiments shall go as soon as the 1st Battalions of these Regiments shall arrive . . . . I beg leave to submit that some of the best and most experienced soldiers in this army, the most healthy and capable of bearing fatigue are in the 2nd Battalions . . . . and it is certain that this army will not be so strong by the exchange of new for old soldiers."

However true the general application of this opinion may have been it certainly did not apply to the "new" soldiers of the 1st Battalion, as their conduct at the battle of Salamanca —to be related hereafter—will show.

Of the march northwards of the 3rd Division there is but little to relate. They camped at Alpedrinha on the 20th April, and Capinha on the 21st April.[4] That their march was hastened is propable from the exciting news which reached Lord Wellington on the 16th April, that the Portuguese Militia had been dispersed by the French troops, under Marmont, who was overrunning the country to the south and south-west of Ciudad Rodrigo. The news, however, was quickly proved to be highly coloured, and the rivers rising in flood in rear of the French Army their position became somewhat precarious, and only the fact that there were not enough British troops at hand prevented the infliction of a serious reverse. The subsidence of the rivers after two or three days gave the French Marshal the opportunity to withdraw his forces, of which he quickly availed himself, and retired upon Salamanca, distributing his troops generally in the cantonments, which they occupied previous to their march into Beira.[5]

The allies took up a position between the rivers Coa and Agueda, a locality already well known to them from the campaign of 1811 and the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo, and for a while remained in cantonments recuperating after their severe hardships.

Marmont's incursion, however, had destroyed all the allies' intermediate magazines and dispersed the means of transport on the lines of communication, and yet there were the fortresses of Almeida, Ciudad Rodrigo, Elvas and Badajos to be supplied before Lord Wellington could undertake his campaign against Marmont. To supply these fortresses he employed the whole of the transport of the army, wheel and mule, to bring up stores, and quartered his troops near the rivers whence supplies could more easily reach them by means of water transport, yet to do this entailed the distribution of his force on a line of little less than 400 miles, and in face of three French armies.[6]

The opportunity was taken of the French retirement and dispersion to detach a force under General Hill to seize the bridge of boats at Almaraz, the only effective communication across the Tagus between the south of Spain and the frontier of Portugal.[7] The work was well carried out, on the 18th May the garrisons being surprised, the forts defending the bridge being taken by assault and eighteen guns captured.

With his right thus safe-guarded, Lord Wellington towards the end of May prepared for a forward movement against Marmont, before he could be reinforced after the harvest.

"We have a better chance of success now," he wrote to Lord Liverpool, "than we have ever had," but added, "with all these prospects I cannot reflect without shuddering upon the probability that we shall be distressed, nor upon the consequence which may result from our wanting money in the interior of Spain."[8]

(*To be continued*).

1 Napier.
2 Robinson: Life of Picton.
3 Napier.
4 Despatches.
5 Despatches.
6 Napier.
7 Maxwell: Life of Wellington.
8 Despatches.

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER FOR THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo fata vocant."

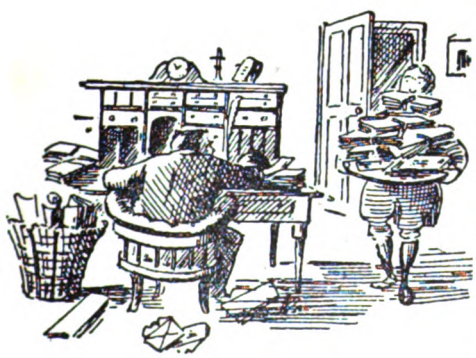
No. 354.] **Saturday, 29th June, 1912.** **[Vol. XXX.**

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
The Editor's Corner	75	4th Batalion Notes	82
Our Contemporaries	75	5th Battalion Notes...	82
Subscriptions Received	75	6th Battalion Notes...	82
Birth, Marriage and Death ...	75	7th Battalion Notes...	83
Extracts from *The London Gazette*	75	Editorial Notes	83
1st Battalion Notes	76	Letters to the Editor	84
2nd Battalion Notes	78	Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day	84
2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes	80	Forty Years' Service with the Fifth Fusiliers (*concluded*) ...	84
2nd Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes	81	1812 in the Peninsula (*to be continued*)	86
		Advertisements i. to viii. and Cover	

THE EDITOR'S CORNER.

26, HANS CRESCENT,
LONDON, S.W.,
29th June, 1912.



Subscriptions to "ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE" are as follows:—Officers (past and present) and their friends, 9d. per copy, post free 10d., or 10/- per annum, post free all over the world; Non-Commissioned Officers and men (past and present) and their friends, 2d. per copy, post free 3d.; or 3/- per annum, post free all over the world.

***Subscriptions** should be sent to the Editor; they will be duly notified in **the next number** of the paper after the remittances have been received.*

***Subscriptions** are due in advance; in the event of a subscription **not being paid** when due, a bill will be sent (this, however, will not **be done in the** case of Officers serving with their Battalions, their **subscriptions** being paid by the Mess President yearly); should a **subscription** not be paid within two months in the case of a subscriber **at home, or three** months in the case of a subscriber abroad, after **such bill is sent** out, it will be assumed that no more copies of the **paper are wanted.** The name will then be taken off the books.*

***It is particularly** requested that all contributions intended for **insertion be sent** so as to reach the Editor NOT LATER than the 25th **of each month,** in order to allow of punctual publication, and that **contributions** be written on ONE SIDE only of the paper.*

Subscribers changing their addresses, Officers proceeding on leave and Non-Commissioned Officers and Men proceeding on furlough, or leaving the Regiment, should send their addresses to the Editor.

All communications to be sent direct to the Editor.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following papers:—

"The Army Service Corps Journal"	"The Argyllshire Highlanders Regimental News"
"Military Mail"	"The London Scottish Gazette"
"The Queen's Own Gazette"	"The Household Brigade Magazine"
"The Globe and Laurel"	"H.L.I. Chronicle"
"The Green Howards' Gazette"	"The Sapper"
"The Naval and Military Record"	"The Journal of the Royal Artillery"
"The XXX."	"The China Dragon"
"The R.M.A. Magazine"	"The XI. Hussar Journal"
"The Aldershot News"	"The 6th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers' Magazine"
"The Antelope"	"The Suffolk Regimental Gazette"
"The Tiger and the Rose"	"The Green Tiger"
"The Black Horse Gazette"	"The Acorn"
"The Hampshire Regimental Journal"	"The White Lancer"
"The Eagle"	"The Ranger"
"The Lion and the Rose"	"The Leinsters' Magazine"
"The Snapper"	"The Dragon"
"The Regiment"	"The Lillywhites Gazette"
"The 79th News"	"The Thin Red Line"
"The Essex Regiment Gazette"	

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions and payments for *Gazettes* from:—

Captain Trench ...	to 31/12/12	Mr. J. Hoolihan ...	to 31/ 7/13
Captain Blair-Imrie ...	,, 31/12/12	Mr. G. Barker ...	,, 30/11/14
Major Buchanan ...	,, 31/12/12	Depôt Sales, March	
Mr. A. Stainforth...	,, 31/ 3/13	P.R.I., 1st Battalion, March Sales	
Mr. A. Sheffield ...	,, 31/ 5/13	Mr. J. Dalzell	
Mr. E. Harris ..	,, 31/ 5/13	March Advertisements	

BIRTH.

BUDD.—On the 27th April, at Sheffield, the wife of No. 1555 Sergeant-Shoemaker J. H. Budd, 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

CROUCH—HUGHES.—On the 30th April, at Rawal Pindi, India, Lance-Sergeant J. W. Crouch, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, to Miss Mary Hughes.

DEATH.

PEARCE.—On the 28th ult., at Sheffield, after a brief and painful illness, the wife of No. 5199 Colour-Sergeant A. E. Pearce, 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, aged 30 years.

EXTRACTS FROM *The London Gazette*:—

4TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain (Hon. Lieutenant in the Army) W. E. Stephenson to be Major (dated 9th April, 1912).

5TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Lieutenant V. H. Thornton resigns his commission (dated 8th June, 1912).

6TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Supernumerary-Second-Lieutenant C. Chipper to be Lieutenant and to remain seconded (dated 18th May, 1912); Second-Lieutenant R. W. Nicholson to be Lieutenant (dated 18th May, 1912). Quartermaster-Sergeant W. M. Megoran to be Quartermaster with the honorary rank of Lieutenant (dated 12th June, 1912).

7TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain P. G. Reynolds, from the 6th Battalion, to be Captain (dated 25th April, 1912).

3RD DRAGOON GUARDS.—Captain C. G. Leslie, from the Northumberland Fusiliers, to be Captain (dated 22nd June, 1912).

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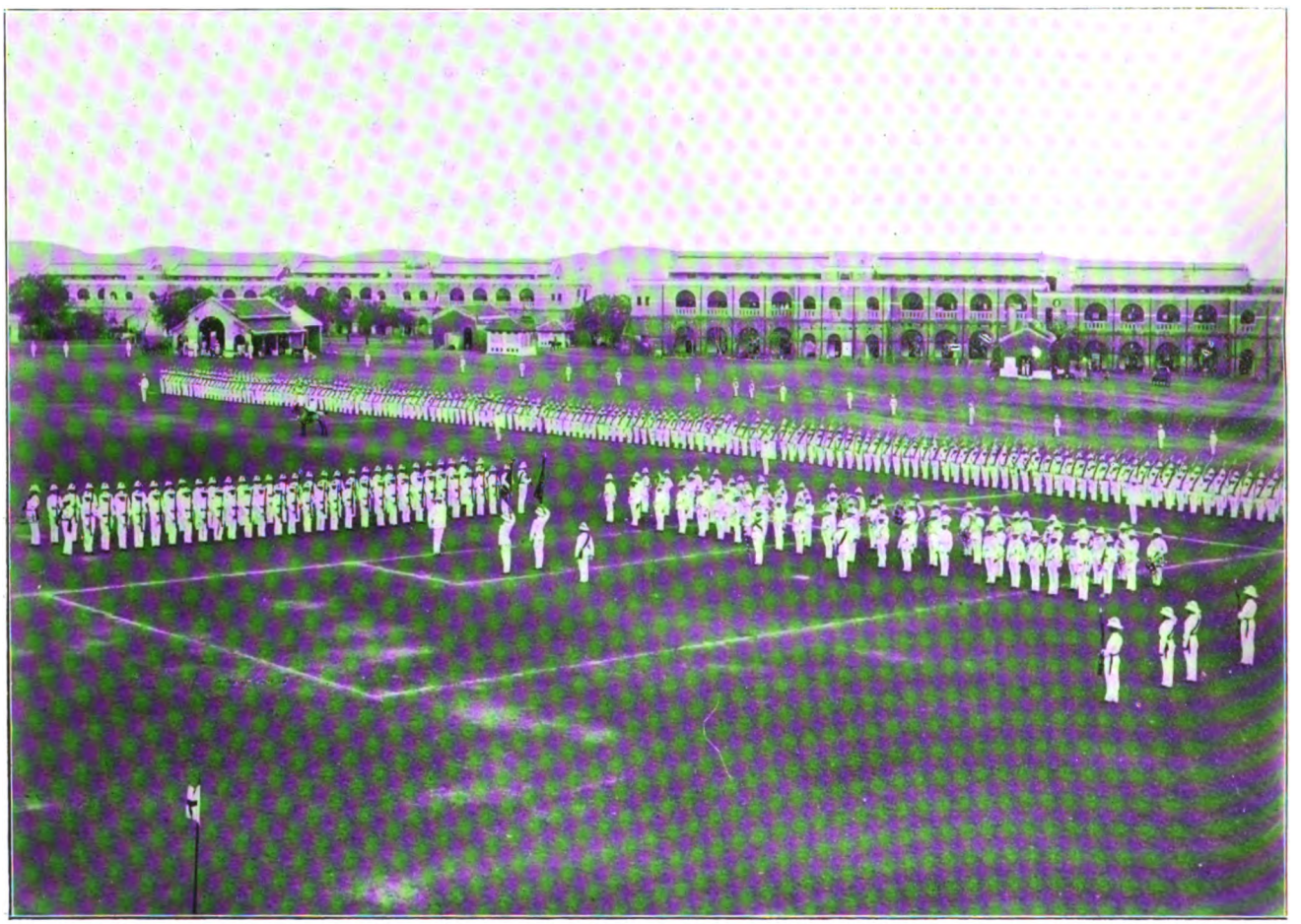
1st Battalion Notes.

MHOW,
31st May, 1912.

IT is all very well for the correspondents of the Battalions at home. Living in the midst of Coal Strikes, Railway Strikes, Suffragette Demonstrations and the various excitements of life in England at the present day, they are never at a loss for "copy." But the peaceful existence of life in the hot weather at Mhow does not lend itself to journalism.

To record that several men of K Company received severe mosquito bites last week, or that Captain H. is suffering from insomnia having missed his midday sleep on two consecutive days, might be of interest in the April notes, but, if repeated in the May and June notes, would cease to arouse interest.

From 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. we work, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. we vegetate, from 5 p.m. till 10 p.m. we live. We amuse ourselves with polo, football and hockey, while daylight lasts, and the evenings are enlivened by the occasional visit of a touring concert party or bioscope. The 14th Hussars held a very successful boxing tournament about the middle of the month, of which a separate account is being forwarded with these notes. Mr. Capper, the famous thought reader, gave an entertainment at the club last week. We were fortunate in having the opportunity of witnessing in the seclusion of Mhow a performance which has astonished the world in general, and, we are told, the crowned heads of Europe in particular.



ST. GEORGE'S DAY. 1ST BATTALION.
(*Photo by McGuerra, Mhow*).

The Royal Horse Artillery held their Annual Sports on Wednesday last. There were three events open to the Garrison. Tug-o'-War (catch weights), Half-Mile Race, and Officers' Target Tent Pegging. C Company who were in the final of the "Tug-o'-War," were unfortunate in losing the toss, as in the only pull in which the ground was

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in their favour they had the other team over the line in no time and they made a good effort in the third and last pull, which decided the event in favour of X Battery.

Captain Herbert and Mr. Lamb had to run off the Tent Pegging, for which there was a large entry, the former carrying off the prize with three bulls eyes. It was a good performance as the bulls eye printed on the peg was about the size of a penny. We had no competitor in the Half-Mile Race, which was a pity as we feel the Battalion should always be represented in an open event, even though we cannot always find a winner.

he actually contracted his illness in the den of a wounded bear, which he had been endeavouring to smoke out. He found the bear dead, but was himself overcome by the fumes he had poured into the den and rendered unconscious. This report of the incident is given with all reserve.

I must apologise for having wrongly described two photographs of Rattrays Sikhs which appeared in the April number as the work of Major Yatman. They were taken by Mr. Ovans and Mr. Watkin respectively. I

ST. GEORGE'S DAY. 1ST BATTALION.
(Photo by Herzog and Higgin).

The clouds gather every day now. We had a few spots of rain last week and there was a heavy shower at Indore the other day. We had a very hot week at the beginning of the month, the thermometer registering 108° in the shade, but the weather has cooled down with the approach of the monsoon.

We are sorry to hear that Mr. Selby has been in hospital at Belgaum suffering from lymphangitis. Rumour had it at first that he had tried a bout of ju-jitsu with a bear and that the bear had not observed the rules of the game. This we now believe to have been quite unfounded, though

have compounded with the former officer, the latter is on leave in England. Should he sue the Editor for infringement of copyright I will be responsible for such damages as may be awarded in the case.

The following Appointments have been made :—

To be Bandsman :—

No. 2162 Private W. Kelly — from 4/4/12

Good Conduct Badges have been awarded as under :—

No.	2571	Private	T. Dixon	1 from	4/2/12
„	2770	„	G. Peart	1 „	4/2/12
„	3187	„	C. Parker	2 „	18/3/12

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No. 2791	Prvate	J. Tillotson	1 from	19/3/12
„ 1071	„	W. Seago	2 „	24/4/12
„ 1439	„	J. Peden	2 „	24/4/12
„ 3096	„	C. Darcy	1 „	27/4/12
„ 475	„	A. Slingsby	2 „	30/4/12
„ 737	„	J. Willcox	2 „	2/5/12
„ 2725	„	W. Finch	1 „	4/5/12
„ 1200	Lce.-Cpl.	W. Lowe	2 „	5/5/12
„ 2486	Private	T. Fairley	1 „	7/5/12
„ 2585	„	H. Morgan	1 „	8/5/12
„ 2551	„	R. Gordon	1 „	10/5/12
„ 2050	„	N. Hogg	1 „	14/5/12

BOXING.

On the 14th and 15th May the 14th (King's) Hussars held a very successful open air Novices' Boxing Tournament. Besides various regimental competitions there were two weights open to the Mhow Garrison at 9st. 7lbs. and 9st., for which we entered nine men. After some good fighting we provided the finalists in both events. Bandsman Stone, D Company, had a walk over in the final of the 9st. competition owing to the absence of Private Forrest, C Company, and Private Addams, D Company, knocked out Private Maddison, F Company, in the final for the heavier weight.

In a six-round contest between Lance-Corporal Smith, F Company and Trooper Walwork, C Squadron, 14th (King's) Hussars, we were again successful. Smith who was the heavier man, winning on points after some first class fighting.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

We very much regret that it was not generally known that the non-commissioned officers and men of X and Y Batteries Royal Horse Artillery were amongst those who so kindly entertained us on our arrival at Mhow.

Far reaching as the effects of Coal and Stokers' Strikes may be, here in Central India little can be said to have been felt of them. Until the appalling *Titanic* disaster no other topic but the heat could be heard—the heat and "Thora." Thora, we understand, is now deceased, yet, notwithstanding this fact, all the members—and other ranks for that matter—have been imploring her in most atrocious voices, to speak to them. And now we add our supplication to theirs. Oh, Thora! if there be anything in Spiritualism, for Heaven's sake seek the assistance of Julia (or some other medium) and say something to them, if it only be to ask them for a temporary loan.

Though undoubtedly the heat has been very great, we have began to emerge from the comatose state which seems to have enthralled us since our arrival here. On the 15th inst. we were at home at tennis to the other Sergeants' Messes of the Garrison. A large number of guests attended and a most enjoyable afternoon was spent. Play continued right up to dusk, and the only incident that prevented our initial entertainment from being an unqualified success was that the tea inadvertently got frozen and the ice cream boiled.

On the 22nd we had a whist drive followed by a dance. A hundred and twenty-four sat down at the tables, whilst many stood up at the bar. It was evidently a night out for our "mounted" guests, three of the prizes going to the 14th Hussars and one to the Supply and Transport Corps. Mrs. Wooll presented the prizes to the winners, who were Miss Helmsley, Schoolmistress, and Mrs. Worfold, both belonging to the 14th, Sergeant Serton of the same Regiment, and Conductor Maben of the Supply and Transport. Sergeant Edmondson helped to retrieve our reputation by visiting the Hussars on the 25th and capturing their first prize.

2nd Battalion Notes.

HILLSBOROUGH BARRACKS, SHEFFIELD,
22nd June, 1912.

DURING the concluding days of May, four days' Company Manœuvres took place at Pontefract and Sheffield. The Sheffield force was divided into two companies made up to war strength under Captains Hart and Warwick, each company having a section of Field Artillery attached. The manœuvres took place in the vicinity of the Peak district in Derbyshire, a county noted for its scenery and also for its hills. Some very strenuous marching took place, Captain Hart's force on one occasion covering ten miles in just over two hours. The operations for the concluding day had to be cancelled on account of the weather.

On the 3rd June E and F Companies and the Drums proceeded to Pontefract; A, B and G Companies arrived at Totley on the 4th June for their annual course of musketry. They have been most unlucky throughout in the weather, there having been scarcely a single day without wind and rain.

On the 1st of next month the Battalion proceeds to Wales for Brigade Training; your correspondent, having mislaid his copy of Regimental Orders, will not attempt to give the name of the camp; it will be sufficient to say that it is a place with an unpronounceable name somewhere in the vicinity of Aberystwyth, and the camp is said to be eighteen miles from the nearest railway station.

During the month Second-Lieutenant Morkill, 4th Battalion West Yorkshire Regiment, and Second-Lieutenant Lord William Percy of our 3rd Battalion left the Battalion on the completion of their periods of attachment.

We must congratulate Lieutenant Nicholls on reaching the 5th Round of the Amateur Golf Championship, being

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beaten in that round by the ultimate winner, Mr. John Ball. In the 1st Round, playing against Mr. Vanderpool, one of the American representatives, he won his match on the 10th green, having played the best 9 holes of the Championship.

The weather at Totley during the present month has much interfered with the trout fishing; very few officers have been out and still fewer fish have been caught.

The remaining Company Rifle Meetings have been held during the month; a machine gun competition was also held, and the 2nd Regimental Team fired for the Queen Victoria's Cup; the scoring throughout was low owing to the weather.

Before the departure of B Company from Pontefract, Privates Leith and Forrest of the Company were in good running form at the Medical Charity Athletic Association Festival held at Castleford on Whit Monday. In the Quarter Mile, Private Leith was first in $51\frac{2}{5}$ seconds, with Private Forrest second, only $\frac{3}{5}$ second behind, winning the 1st and 2nd prizes, a silver tea set and a silver butter dish. We must congratulate them on their success, and hope that it will be a forerunner of many others.

We are glad to say that Mr. Mahon has quite recovered from his recent operation; he is now on sick leave in Ireland.

The following have left the Service during the month:—

No. 6538 Private F. PARIS.—Enlisted, 9/6/00; discharged, 8/6/12; service, 12 years; served in 2nd and 4th Battalions.

No. 6441 Lance-Sergeant J. W. BRENNAN.—Discharged, 14/6/12, medically unfit; service, 12 years and 4 months; served in 2nd and 3rd Battalions. Service abroad: South Africa, 4 years, 225 days; West Indies, 84 days.

No. 9494 Lance-Sergeant A. DUKE.—Transferred to Army Reserve, 26/6/12; service, 9 years; served in 2nd Battalion.

Certificates of Education have been awarded as under:—

2nd Class:—

(dated 4/6/12)

No. 3291 Private H. Whitton

3rd Class:—

No. 3312	Pte.	T. Richardson	No. 3394	Pte.	R. Penrose
„ 3387	„	E. Hindmarch	„ 3384	„	A. Martin
„ 3430	„	W. Chivers	„ 3353	„	A. Woodcock
„ 3408	„	J. Nutley	„ 3394	„	J. Marshall
„ 3323	„	P. James	„ 3246	Boy	J. Goundry

No. 3410 Private F. Peel transferred to the 71st Battery Royal Field Artillery, from the 15th inst.

No. 3438 Private C. Cavan transferred from the 2nd Battalion Durham Light Infantry, from the 11th inst.

No. 9273 Sergeant J. Fletcher extended his service to complete 12 years with the Colours on the 8th inst.

No. 547 Bandmaster W. F. Cooper has been permitted to continue in the Service beyond 21 years, until the 4th January, 1916.

The following Promotions and Appointments have been made:—

To be Sergeant:—

No. 5792	Lance-Sergeant	J. Cochran	from 16/6/12

To be paid Lance-Sergeants:—

No. 899	Lance-Sergeant	G. Groves	from 15/6/12
„ 920	„	A. Frame	„ 16/6/12

To be unpaid Lance-Sergeants:—

No. 8024	Corporal	G. Draper	from 15/6/12
„ 9360	„	D. Redhead	„ 15/6/12
„ 810	„	E. Pawsey	„ 15/6/12

To be Corporals:—

No. 8303	Lance-Corporal	A. Chapman	from 1/6/12
„ 2302	„	W. Earle	„ 1/6/12
„ 2259	„	H. Webster	„ 3/6/12
„ 2536	„	G. Panter	„ 15/6/12
„ 2432	„	A. Lawrence	„ 16/6/12

To be paid Lance-Corporals:—

No. 2850	Lance-Corporal	W. Burr	from 16/5/12
„ 2119	„	J. Daley	„ 21/5/12
„ 2747	„	H. Cave	„ 28/5/12
„ 2351	„	W. Warren	„ 1/6/12
„ 3027	„	R. Davison	„ 1/6/12
„ 3035	„	A. Hornett	„ 1/6/12
„ 3034	„	W. Lockhart	„ 1/6/12
„ 2545	„	E. Cunningham	„ 3/6/12
„ 2994	„	G. Thynne	„ 15/6/12
„ 3098	„	T. Holmes	„ 16/6/12

SHOOTING.

The following are the results of the Company Rifle Competitions:—

A COMPANY.

COMPANY AGGREGATE.

CLASS I.

1	... ...	Private Card
2	... ...	„ Fraser

CLASS II.

1	... ...	Private Barker
2	... ...	„ Potter

600YDS. SLOW.

SERGEANTS.

1—Lance-Sergeant Groves	17
2—Sergeant Hiorns	16
3—Lance-Sergeant Holland	14

CORPORALS AND PRIVATES.

1—Private Frazer	19
2— „ Fordoff	13
3— „ Devereux	13

500YDS. SLOW.

CLASS I.

1—Private Bryson	17
2— „ Frazer	15
3— „ Cord	15

CLASS II.

1—Lance-Corporal Waters	18
2—Private Fordoff	17
3— „ Barker	

500YDS. RAPID.

SERGEANTS.

1—Sergeant Moore	22

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300YDS. SNAPSHOOTING.
SERGEANTS.
1—Sergeant Hiorns 12

300YDS. RAPID.
CLASS I.
1—Private Cord 24
2—Sergeant Brooks 24
3—Lance-Corporal Cave 20

CLASS II.
1—Pte. Fordoff 2—Pte. Barker 3—Pte. Dodsworth

200YDS. SNAPSHOOTING.
CLASS I.
1—Private Frazer... 15
2—Lance-Corporal Panter 12

CLASS II.
Sgt. Avery, Pte. Bryden, Pte. Potter—12 points each.

TEAMS.
1ST SECTION TEAM, NO. 3 SECTION.
Lce.-Corpls. Panter and Waters, Ptes. Frazer and Dodsworth.
Conditions as for A.R.A. Company Match. Score, 88 points.

2ND SECTION TEAM, NO. 2 SECTION.
Lce.-Corpl. Cave, Ptes. Johnson, Webster, Fordoff.
Score, 87 points.

B COMPANY.

600YDS.
NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.
1—Colour-Sergeant Maynard 15
2—Sergeant Greaves 7

CLASS 1 AND 2.
1—Private Green 17
2—Corporal Webster 16
3—Private Welsh 15

500YDS. RAPID.
NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.
1—Sergeant Woods 7
2— „ Greaves 7

The poor score is accounted for by having to repeat the practice on account of a misunderstanding in the time. Colour-Sergeant Maynard in the first shoot made a score of 29.

500YDS. SLOW.
CLASS I.
1— (Lance-Corporal Robson 18
(Private Ingledew 18
3—Lance-Corporal Thompson 17

CLASS II.
1—Private Allan 17
2— „ Green 16
3— „ Burrows 15

300YDS. RAPID.
CLASS I.
1—Lance-Corporal Robson 29
2— (Corporal Webster 26
(Private Welsh 26

CLASS II.
1—Private Green 29
2— „ Minnithorpe 26
3—Corporal Draper 25

300YDS. SNAPSHOOTING.
Sergeant Greaves 12
Private Smith 12

200YDS. SNAPSHOOTING.
CLASS I.
1— (Colour-Sergeant Maynard 15
(Lance-Corporal Robson 15

CLASS II.
1— (Private Fearnley 12
(„ Leith 12

SECTION TEAMS.
1—No. 4 Section (Corporal Draper) 133
2— „ 3 „ (Sergeant Greaves) 127

G COMPANY.

TEAM COMPETITION.
1—Corporal Wilford's Team 120
2—Lance-Sergeant Frame's Team 118

600YDS. SLOW.
SERGEANTS.
1—Colour-Sergeant Watson 16

RANK AND FILE OF TEAMS.
1—Lance-Corporal Christie 15
2—Private Howard 15

500YDS. SLOW.
CLASS I.
1—Sergeant Smallwood 16
2—Lance-Corporal Lawrence 15

CLASS II.
1—Private Shenton 17
2— „ McCletchie 15
3—Drummer Moore 15

500YDS. RAPID (10 rounds; 30secs.).
SERGEANTS.
1—Colour-Sergeant Watson 16

300YDS. RAPID (10 rounds; 45secs.).
CLASS I.
1—Corporal Wilford 28
2—Private Cooper... 23

CLASS II.
1—Private Johnson 26
2— „ McCletchie 21
3— (Lance-Corporal Pantry 21
(Private Davison 21

300YDS. SNAPSHOOTING ((Fig. 3; 4secs. exposure).
SERGEANTS.
1— (Sergeant Smallwood 12
(Lance-Sergeant Frame 12

300YDS. SNAPSHOOTING (Teams Only).
CLASS I.
1— (Corporal Wilford 12
(Colour-Sergeant Watson 12

200YDS. SNAPSHOOTING (Fig. 3; 4secs. exposure).
CLASS I.
1—Corporal Willson 15
2—Private Cooper 12

CLASS II.
1—Private Davidson 15
2— „ Dunnage
3— „ Waller } 9
„ Johnson

Teams shot under Queen Victoria's Cup conditions.

2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes.

THE BARRACKS, PONTEFRACT,
23rd June, 1912.

JUNE 3rd saw the arrival of two new Companies, viz., E and F Companies, to replace two of the former Companies here on permanent detachment, whilst G Company is due in August on the termination of Battalion and Brigade Training in Wales.

During the present month all ranks have been given the opportunity of having ten days' furlough preparatory to

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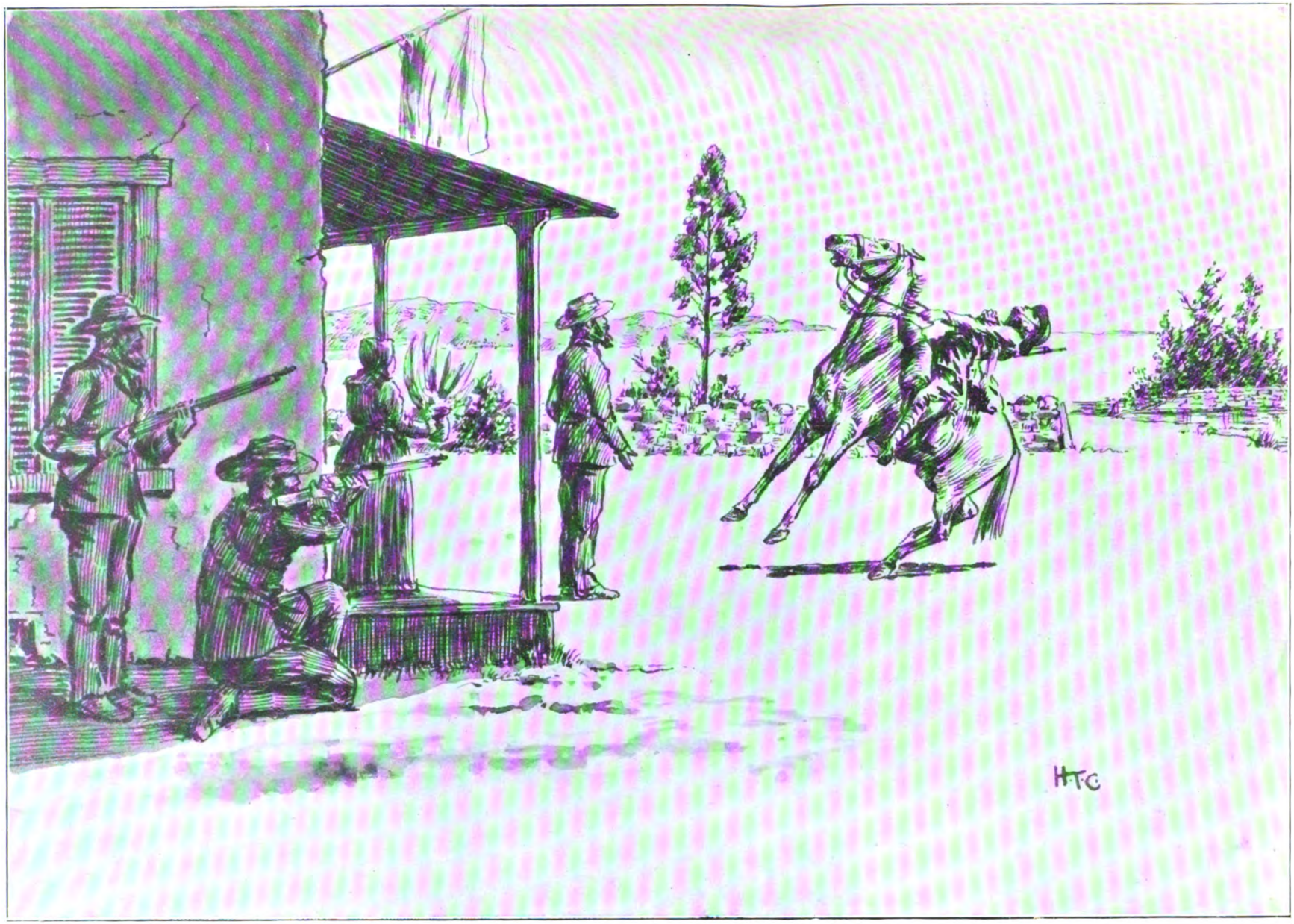

We're trekkin' our twenty miles a day an' bein' loved by the Dutch,
But we don't hold on by the mane no more, nor lose our stirrups much,
An' we scout with a senior man in charge where the 'oly white flags fly.
We used to think they were friendly once,
Didn't take any precautions once
(Once, my ducky, an' only once!),
But now we are M.I.

RUDYARD KIPLING.

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our strenuous time in Wales from 1st July to 12th August. Consequently, with only two Companies here, and many men on furlough, we have been very few in numbers, and those that are here have been indulging in route marches twice a week to get into condition for harder times later on.

Captain Girdwood is in temporary command of the Detachment here during the absence of Major Turner on leave.

Lieutenant O. B. Foster and Corporal Bailey are doing a fortnight's duty at Scarborough with the Northumberland Territorial Brigade under the command of Colonel J. F. Riddell. Lieutenant Foster has gone as a Machine Gun Instructor, and Corporal Bailey to instruct in Signalling.

On the 21st inst. Mr. Holderness with the assistance of his terriers, and Captain Girdwood and Mr. Trench as onlookers and occasional diggers, had quite a successful badger "dig" in Went Hill Wood near here. With the aid of strenuous spade-work on the part of Privates Bell, McCorkindale and Mulgrew their efforts were rewarded at 5 o'clock, after several hours' digging, with the capture of a badger cub weighing about 14lbs. The terriers, eight in number, were put to ground in reliefs of two at a time, and for about two hours the grunting of the badger and the "baying" of the terriers was heard but the badger could not be located. However, after further spade-work, the right channel was "hit off" and the "brock" was located, being deftly "tailed" and put in a sack by Mr. Holderness. The animal, being not full-grown, was liberated afterwards in a field close at hand and we hope will provide a "dig" some other day.

The Whitsuntide holiday proved a very busy period for the Detachment, the following Territorials being encamped on the Ranges:—5th Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers, 4th Battalion Loyal North Lancashire Regiment and the 3rd East Lancashire Field Ambulance. The Ranges were in use from morning till night, the Detachment spending most of the time in the butts. The evening previous to breaking up the Camp, the Sergeants Lancashire Fusiliers held a Smoking Concert. The Colonel in his speech said he was very pleased indeed to welcome representatives of the Fifth Fusiliers there that evening.

Early in the month a party of nine men left for Sheffield to join the Mounted Infantry section, being relieved by men of C and H Companies from Headquarters.

B COMPANY FOOTBALL TEAM, 2ND BATTALION 5TH FUSILIERS.
(Photo by C. H. Hewes, Pontefract.)

The Principal Medical Officer, Western Command, paid us a visit during the month and expressed his satisfaction at what he saw.

It is not often that a detachment numbering fifty-five loses two sergeants within a day of each other, but such happened to this detachment this month. Sergeant Beecraft went on furlough pending discharge on the 14th inst., and Sergeant Stanley proceeded to Scarborough on the 15th inst. to join the 5th Battalion for a term of duty. Sergeant Beecraft is well-known in the

2nd Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes.

THE HUTMENTS, FLEETWOOD,
24th June, 1912.

A LARGE party of the Depôt the Manchester Regiment from Ashton-under-Lyne have occupied the Huts during the month. They leave on the 1st July to join their Reserve Battalion for training at Barrow.

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Regiment, having served in both Battalions. He spent a number of years abroad, being present at the battle of Omdurman and serving through the South African War; he also served in Gibraltar, Crete, Mauritius, and India. It does not fall to the lot of every soldier to travel so extensively and in the journey to earn four medals. He intends to travel yet farther afield, leaving England very shortly for New Zealand. All unite in wishing him and his family a safe journey to the England of the Southern Seas, also prosperity and happiness in the future.

4th Battalion Notes.

SCARBOROUGH,
20th June, 1912.

AFTER an absence of nine years the Battalion is again encamped on the breezy heights of Scarborough Racecourse.

We arrived here by special train on the 16th inst., in dull and threatening weather, but fortunately got settled down in Camp without getting wet.

Colonel J. F. Riddell made his Annual Inspection of the Battalion on Tuesday, the 18th inst. Unfortunately rain had fell heavily during the whole of the night and much difficulty was experienced in folding great coats and cleaning up uniforms saturated with rain.

Our strength in Camp is 18 officers and 625 men, by far the largest figures we have had since the inauguration of the Territorial Scheme.

So far our training has been conducted under fairly favourable conditions, the manœuvring ground is, however, small and much intersected by "Out of Bounds" patches, and the weather has only been moderately favourable, the days being showery and the nights cold and wet.

5th Battalion Notes.

SCARBOROUGH,
23rd June, 1912.

THE Battalion is now under canvas in the midst of their Annual Training. The 5th are the strongest Battalion in Camp for the first week, and the additional arrivals to-day will still increase the majority.

The training so far has been principally Section, half-Company and Company work preparing the Non-commissioned-officers and men for the more advanced practice next week.

The Scouts and Signallers have both been receiving special training under selected officers, and the work of both has now reached an interesting stage and all are quite keen on the work.

The weather has been all that could be desired, and with parade ceasing at a fixed time daily, all ranks are highly pleased and consider "Scarboro" one of the best, if not *the best*, camp they have had. We have our two medical officers with us.

Next week arrangements have been made for a certain number of our men to travel to the Range at Strensall and fire their musketry.

Some of our Companies have turned up for the full period almost to a man, H Company (Gosforth) being 106 strong.

6th Battalion Notes.

SCARBOROUGH,
24th June, 1912.

THE 6th Battalion began its Annual Training at Scarborough on Sunday, the 16th inst., under the command of Major G. R. B. Spain. The weather has so far been fine, but marred by heavy thunderstorms, which have to some extent interfered with the training.

The total strength in camp is 634 non-commissioned officers and men and twenty-two officers.

This week the greater part of the Battalion will go to Strensall for musketry.

We are sorry to lose our Quartermaster, Lieutenant W. Suthren, and welcome Lieutenant W. M. Megoran, our late Quartermaster-Sergeant, who is very ably fulfilling his duties.

The Battalion Sports were held on Saturday afternoon on our own Parade Ground. The course was tastefully laid out with the Company flags and semaphore flags. The sports were well supported, many of the events evoking great merriment.

During the afternoon Colonel Ritson visited the camp, leaving again on Monday morning. We fear that this may be his last appearance as Officer Commanding. The expiry of his command is regretted by all ranks.

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7th Battalion Notes.

THE CAMP, SCARBOROUGH,
24th June, 1912.

"HAPPY is the people that has no history." All right for the people, but their historian would be stuck after he had written his title page. So this happy Battalion is plodding through its duties in a quiet, steady way that starves the chronicler of its fortunes for matter.

Anyhow, we have the Englishman's topic, weather, which can so far be entered as good, and the outlook is hopeful.

We are glad to have in the Mess Colonel J. F. Riddell, Commanding the Brigade, and his Brigade-Major, Major Phibbs, of the Royal Irish Fusiliers; also Major Moore, East Yorkshires, attached to the Brigade for signalling; Captain Edwards, also of the East Yorkshires for scouting, and Lieutenant O. B. Foster, of the FIFTH, for machine guns.

The Inspection by the Brigadier took place on the 21st, and the efforts of all ranks to make a good show resulted in a favourable report.

A return to the old system of Mounting Guards provides a pleasing spectacle for general onlookers and a bit of ceremonial for the experts to criticise every evening at tattoo.

The attractions of Scarborough induce a general exodus from camp after work is over, and for those who elect to stay in camp the Y.M.C.A. tent continues its useful work for letter writers and those seeking rest and quiet amusement.

Editorial Notes.

26, HANS CRESCENT,
LONDON, S.W.
25th June, 1912.

SUBSCRIBERS when sending their subscriptions are requested to send them by means of cheques or postal orders and *not in stamps*, and particularly not in a mixture of postal order and half-penny stamps.

While on the subject of subscriptions, we would draw attention to the first paragraph in the article "25 Years ago to-day." Times have not changed in the last twenty-five years, nor, it seems, are they likely to change in the next twenty-five. At the end of March this year some seventy-five notices regarding overdue subscriptions were sent out, a considerable proportion of which elicited no reply either in the shape of protest or subscription; these latter notices have, as a consequence, to be sent out once more at the end of this quarter, at some expense to the *Gazette*.

We regret to hear that "Mac" is dead. Though not exactly a Regimental dog, and yet not altogether unacquainted with the cook-house, "Mac" was well-known to many who have served with the 2nd Battalion during the last few years and it is sad to think that he can no longer be "lent" to a certain captain now seconded.

We are very glad to hear that among the 150 Crimean and Mutiny Veterans present at the Review of the National Reserve in Hyde Park, on June 8th, were two ex-Fusiliers in the shape of Sergeant James Coody and Lance-Sergeant Dennis McCarthy, whose smart appearance and numerous decorations attracted much attention. Sergeant Coody wore the medals for the Mutiny, and for Long Service and Good Conduct, the Regimental Order of Merit, the Meritorious Service and King's Coronation Medals, while Sergeant McCarthy has the Mutiny Medal, the Regimental Order of Merit and the King's Coronation Medal. These are two worthy representatives of the Old Corps.

On June 6th a cheque for £58 was forwarded to Major Malet with a letter, on behalf of the undermentioned subscribers, thanking him for his services as Editor of the *St. George's Gazette*:—

Colonel Beamish
Lieutenant-Colonel Biddulph
Major-General Bigge, C.B.
Captain Booth
Colonel Cherry
Brigade-Surgeon Collins
Lieutenant-Colonel Creagh
" " Darley
Colonel Dashwood
Mr. Dixon
Lieutenant-Colonel Hart-Dyke
" " Enderby
Captain Enderby, D.L.
Mrs. Forsyth
Captain the Hon. N. Gathorne-Hardy
Lieutenant-Colonel Graeme
Messrs. Grigg & Son
Major Harding
Lieutenant-Colonel Hargreave
" " Heathcote
Colonel Herbert Armstrong
Mr. Hoolihan
Colonel James
" Kilgour
" the Hon. C. Lambton, D.S.O.
Major Leather
Lieutenant-Colonel Longbourne
Colonel Master, C.B.
Sir H. Miles, Bart.
Lieutenant-General Sir B. Milman, K.C.B.
Lieutenant-Colonel Pagan
" " Pearse-Hobbs
Colonel Riddell
" Robinson
" Rowland, C.B.
Captain Sarel
Lieutenant-Colonel Sapte
" " Scott
Colonel Sitwell, C.B., D.S.O.
Lieutenant-Colonel Somerville
Colonel Sturges
Mrs. Thistlethwayte
Lieutenant-Colonel Sir H. Thornhill, K.C., I.E.
Lieutenant-Colonel Wadling
" " Whitaker
Brigadier-General Wilkinson
Major Wood
Officers 2/5 Fusiliers
" Depôt, Newcastle

It appears that there is in the "office" no set of Bound Volumes which is the property of the Editor in his official capacity, and as the late Editor has asked for the set which he left behind him, we are endeavouring to collect a complete set for Editorial use. A considerable number of volumes can be obtained from the Depôt, but the following years cannot be found there, viz., '83, '84, '85, '86, '92, '93. We should be glad to hear of any subscribers who have any

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of the above volumes and who would be prepared to dispose of them. We are ready to purchase them on behalf of the *Gazette*, but would be grateful for any volumes which should be presented.

Subscribers are requested to notify to the Editor or the printer any change of address; four copies of last month's *Gazette* were returned as the addressee had gone away, and will have to be sent out again. It is reckoned that every *Gazette* thus returned costs fourpence in postage before it reaches the addressee.

Letters to the Editor.

3, Heathview Gardens, Roehampton, S.W.,
12th June, 1912.

Dear Mr. Editor,—I am writing a line to tell you how sorry I was not to be able to attend the Regimental Dinner and to personally thank all the kind contributors to my testimonial, which was forwarded to me in a cheque by Lieutenant-Colonel Dyke on the day after the dinner. To the best of my belief I have acknowledged the gift to each donor, but I should like to put the expression of my gratitude on record in *St. George's Gazette*. The names of the friends who have been good enough to thus mark their appreciation of my humble services as Editor are as follows:—Lieutenant-Colonel Robinson, Mrs. Thistlethwayte, Colonel Kilgour, Colonel Rowland, C.B., Colonel Beamish, Mr. John Hoolihan, Captain the Hon. N. Gathorne-Hardy, Colonel Master, C.B., Captain W. Enderby, D.L., J.P., Lieutenant-Colonel Scott, Mr. James Dixon (late C Company Fifth Fusiliers), Major Leather, Captain Sarel, Officers' Mess Second Battalion 5th Fusiliers, Colonel Enderby, Lieutenant-Colonel Biddulph, Colonel G. H. Armstrong, Lieutenant-Colonel Pearse Hobbs, Colonel the Hon. C. Lambton, D.S.O., the Officers the Depôt 5th Fusiliers, Colonel James, Mrs. Forsyth, Lieutenant-Colonel Hargreave, Lieutenant-Colonel W. S. Darley, Colonel Riddell, Lieutenant-Colonel Wadling, Sir H. R. Miles, Bart., Lieutenant-General Sir Bryan Milman, K.C.B., Major C. Wood, Colonel E. Dashwood, Lieutenant-Colonel J. Creagh, Colonel H. A. Cherry, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir H. Thornhill, K.C.S.I., Colonel W. E. Sturges, Major G. Harding, Lieutenant-Colonel Graeme, Lieutenant-Colonel Longbourne, Captain R. Booth, Colonel W. H. Sitwell, C.B., D.S.O., Lieutenant-Colonel Sapte, Brigadier-General P. S. Wilkinson, Lieutenant-Colonel Pagan, Lieutenant-Colonel Whitaker, Lieutenant-Colonel Heathcote, Lieutenant-Colonel Somerville, Major-General T. S. Bigge, C.B., Lieutenant-Colonel G. H. Dyke, Messrs. Grigg & Son (printers of *St. George's Gazette*), and Brigade-Surgeon Collins.

I need not say how deeply I am touched by the goodness of so many old friends and the number of kind letters I have received.

Yours truly,
J. W. Malet, Major.
Late 5th Fusiliers.

8, Higham Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne,
24th June, 1912.

Dear Sir,—The Executive Committee Northumberland Fusiliers Aid Society beg to acknowledge with thanks the following further subscriptions and donations for 1912:—

	Subscriptions. £ s. d.	Donations. £ s. d.
Previously acknowledged	107 17 0	
Earl of Durham, K.G.	1 1 0	
Earl Grey	4 4 0	
Officers, 2nd Battalion	12 16 3	
Captain Hew Blair-Imrie	—	1 0 0
Miss Booth	2 2 0	
Total	£128 0 3	£1 0 0

At the Annual Meeting of the General Committee held at the residence of Lieutenant-Colonel Darley on the 6th inst. the following were present:—Major-General T. S. Bigge, C.B. (presiding), Colonels F. Pocklington, H. Kilgour, Hon. C. Lambton, D.S.O., T. G. L. H. Armstrong and E. W. Dashwood, Lieutenant-Colonels W. S. Darley, G. Hart-Dyke, M. W. Biddulph, D. Sapte, S. H. Enderby and C. G. Heathcote, Majors C. E. Fishbourne and J. Thomson.

Yours truly,
Jas. Thomson, Major,
Secretary, Northumberland Fusiliers Aid Society.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY.

EXTRACTS FROM *ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE*, JUNE 30th, 1887.

Newry, Thursday, 30th June, 1887.

The Editor's Corner.—The Editor begs most respectfully to request that subscribers will send him their subscriptions for the year in advance, in order to ensure their having every monthly number punctually forwarded to their addresses. He regrets that several subscriptions are still due for 1886 and some even for 1885.

1st Battalion Notes.—Our annual inspection took place on the 24th and 25th inst. by Major-General Wiseman-Clarke, C.B., Commanding the Belfast District, and the following appeared in Regimental Orders next day:—

"The Commanding Officer has great pleasure in informing the Battalion that the Major-General was pleased to express his entire satisfaction at everything he saw at the inspection, especially the steadiness of the men under arms, the way in which the valises were put on, the cleanliness of the barrack rooms, and the regular way in which the kits were laid down; also the soldier-like bearing of the men when walking in the streets. The Commanding Officer thanks all ranks for the creditable state of the Battalion, and trusts that they will not tarnish its good name by 'slackness.'"

The boat race, which we had hoped to row with the Newry Rowing Club, has fallen through owing to our boat not having sliding seats and the Newry Rowing Club having only boats of that pattern.

Notification has been received from the War Office that H.R.H. the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief considers a sketch done by Lance-Corporal Laidler while at the N.C.O.'s Reconnaissance Class in Dublin extremely creditable and desires that an expression of opinion in that sense be communicated to Lance-Corporal Laidler. Colonel FitzRoy has communicated the same to him and recorded his name in the Permanent Order book.

We move from Newry on Friday morning 1st July, proceed to Kingstown, and embark same day on board H.M.S. *Tamar* and sail at daybreak on the 2nd inst., arriving early on the morning of the 4th at Portsmouth, from whence we shall start at once for Aldershot, the married families under Major Way going to Colchester.

[We regret that no 2nd Battalion Notes have turned up this month in time for this number, owing to an accident occurring to the mail steamer, we presume].

FORTY YEARS' SERVICE WITH THE FIFTH FUSILIERS.

By Mr. L. WALLACE, late Bandmaster, 2nd Batt. 5th Fusiliers).

(*Concluded from page 74*).

It was a comparatively weak Battalion that marched into Aldershot on the 18th June, 1904, and took up its quarters in the Badajos Barracks, Wellington Lines. A few years before I had heard Aldershot discussed by a few who had been through

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the mill there, and it was agreed that duties were many, work hard and plentiful, and the discipline strict, but the soldier knew exactly what he had to do, and that done, he could enjoy himself anyway he wished without hindrance. In winter there was plenty of good and interesting football to be seen, dances without stint, good cricket in its season, while those to whom sport did not appeal had London handy. I think that summing up although concise was fairly accurate. Aldershot was quite new to me except by reputation, so as usual I lost no time in investigating the immediate surroundings; the Church was conveniently near and claimed my first attention with its possibilities for our choir which I was proud of, and satisfied in that respect I prepared to move on when the monument to the Duke of Wellington met my gaze and that carried me back to my early days, when the life of the Iron Duke was hardly ever out of my hands, so I was pretty well conversant with the history of his campaigns also the parts taken in them by the FIFTH. I found the statue, with all its so-called faults, very interesting. The bands of the 4th Brigade to which we belonged were alternately detailed to play a programme close by on Sunday afternoons, and ours had been warned for that duty about two months previous to our arrival. I happened to mention that fact to some new acquaintance that evening, when he laughed and said, "There will be a big crowd present at the Monument next Sunday." I remarked that it was a satisfaction to play to a large and appreciative audience, "They don't go to hear the band, they just go to see and enjoy the bandmaster, he's better fun than Sousa," I had seen Sousa at his antics and thought he was simply humbugging his audience, and perhaps his imitator was doing the same. My next discovery was the 4th Brigade Recreation Ground, where sports were in full swing, and one of the Brigade Battalions was having its annual meeting. A closer acquaintanceship was soon made with that ground for it was where the Brigade bands practiced every Monday morning, and being the senior bandmaster I was held responsible for the music and discipline and a tough time I had of it at first, but being well seconded by the other ranks we soon had everything going like clockwork. Two or three days after our arrival saw the Battalion out at Frith Hill Camp, about eight miles from Aldershot, doing Brigade training, and so the soldiering began, and continued much the same way during my stay at Aldershot; here to-day somewhere else to-morrow. I mentioned sports, football and cricket, but omitted the mention of piscatory recreation that was provided by the Basingstoke Canal, where pike, tench and roach were fairly plentiful and of a decent size, many of the men of the Battalion became followers of Isaak Walton's gentle art and got fairly good catches at times; it is needless to say I was a disciple and I call to mind fishing there one hot afternoon in July. I had found a three-pounder tench lying dead in the Canal close to the bank; it must have been there two or three days judging by its gassy appearance, but it gave off no smell. Just after I had examined and put it back again, a boating party came along, and as I was known to some of them I came in for a considerable amount of chaff. "What! fishing, don't you know there are no fish in the Canal, whoever heard of one being caught or seen?" There was also something added about the definition of an angler—I let them have their say, smiled and bided my time, and when they had finished, I pulled the tench out of the water and held it up to view and said, "Well, I have not been here long, but I got this out as soon as I came;" this changed their tune, they looked and admired the fish and its size, and so with the excuse that I had no means of carrying such a big one about I magnanimously begged their acceptance, and it was received with appropriate thanks and stowed away in the stern of the boat. As they rowed away I smiled again and determined to wait for the sequel, the sun got hotter and hotter to my satisfaction, and about four hours after, I saw them coming back at racing speed, and as they were passing, I called out, "What's the hurry?" One shouted back "That blamed fish of yours went suddenly bad and we are nearly all poisoned, we're trying to get away from the perfume, it's following us." I packed up, I had had sufficient sport for that day. The Fleet Pond was favoured by some of the officers, and held according to report some fabulous pike that compared favourably with the legendry pike of Ireland; occasionally I heard of a catch, but not of one of the monsters. A fisherman told me of a pike that he had caught there and which weighed 5lb. 10oz., but he happened to tell me about this catch again and the pounds and ounces had changed places. I was always a good listener and tried my level best to keep a straight face, but on this occassion it slipped, and he appealed at once to a Colonel who was near by "That was the weight, wasn't it, Colonel?" "Yes," came the answer, with a short laugh, "more or less."

All soldiers are no doubt familiar with a torchlight tattoo. At Aldershot all the materials for such a display are to hand, and as a rule it forms the concluding item of a Grand Military Fete which takes place about once a year in some grounds adjacent to Government House. The eight massed bands of the 2nd Division usually played the programme, they did so again, and being the senior bandmaster of that Division, I was detailed to conduct, and this is my experience. I was perched high on some rickety boxes, the least movement on which made them sway to and fro in a most alarming manner, a bodyguard of ten torch bearers were drawn up in a semi-circle to shew up the conducting, but they were not over careful and seemed to think I was up there as a kind of Guy Fawkes that they were to set fire to, and as oil and rags were plentiful it is hardly necessary to say that the torches gave off an abundant supply of smoke, and the flames were all but singeing my busby. I wanted to sneeze and cough, but to have done either would have been disastrous and by the time the programme was finished I was black inside and out and the possessor of a thirst something akin to what inspired Stevens, the war correspondent, to write the "Pathology of a Sudan Thirst."

In the February I had a very pleasant surprise, viz., the information that I had been honoured by the King by being granted the Meritorious Service Medal which shortly after was presented to me on parade by Brigadier-General Belfield. In the following June we had a Royal Review on Laffan's Plain in honour of the King of Spain who had just joined the British Army as Honorary-Colonel of the 16th Lancers and headed that Corps at the march past. We had the unusual addition on this occasion of the Navy which was represented by three strong battalions from Portsmouth, a battalion each of sailors, Marine Artillery and Marine Light Infantry. I was posted opposite the saluting point, and can say of all that marched past that day none marched more steadily or kept their dressing better that the 5th Fusiliers. The cavalry were to have given us something sensational, their bands had been practised so as to be able to play at the head of the Cavalry Brigade during the gallop past and a rehearsal took place to test their ability in that direction. As the saluting base was being approached the band horses became restive at the rumble and close proximity of the Royal Horse Artillery and quickened their pace till it became a bolt and soon they were all over the country; so the sensational innovation was postponed.

After the review all again settled down to military training and so on down to the furlough season. I suppose most of the long service soldiers who have left the Army have considered, as their time drew near, the possibilities of civil life, for its all very well to talk about the well-earned rest, that sounds nice and is a pleasing theory, but not practical, for every man in good health is a worker and he must have something to work at if only as a hobby; idleness is not good for him or his health and as that was my view I held on until I could find some suitable and congenial employment, and that employment came about through the good offices of a friend in the FIFTH; so I had suddenly to make my arrangements for leaving early in February, 1906, and at last the inevitable smoker came off that was to be my good-bye. I can still see those kindly faces, the owners of which were trying their hardest to make my send off a happy one and something to think of in the future, and in this they were successful for I do think of it and of them. Then with the following morning came more farewells, I had already the evening before said good-bye to Colonel Dashwood and the officers, it now came the turn of my Band; it was hard to say the words to them and try to smile at the same time.

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but it was done and a few hours later found me trying to settle down amidst new surroundings. I have now a boys' band called the "Warren Farm Schools' Band," it is also the "Imperial Service Cadets' Band" and most of its members join Army Bands. I am very proud of them for last year Colonel Seely, the Secretary of State for War, complimented them highly on what he was pleased to call their most excellent performance. He at the same time inquired to what corps I had belonged and as I said the 5th Fusiliers, called the Northumberland Fusiliers, he smiled and said "'The Old Fighting Fifth,' a good old corps and one of the very best."

Now, in conclusion, I beg to tender my thanks to the Editor, the Assistant Editor and readers of the *St. George's Gazette* for their patience and consideration, both of which no doubt I have tried, while in my crude way I have been trying to give my reminiscences of "Forty Years' Service with the 5th Fusiliers."

1812 IN THE PENINSULA.

JUNE.

(*Continued from page 74*).

The Allies remained for several weeks in their cantonments, recovering from their exertions at Badajos and receiving reinforcements until as Kincaid puts it "all perforated skins and repairable cracked limbs had been mended,"[1] when the scattered troops were set in motion towards the river Augeda where Lord Wellington hoped to have them collected on the 8th and 9th June. But before relating the preliminary steps which led up to the crowning victory of this year's campaign, the battle of Salamanca, let us glance at the numbers available on both sides. Under Lord Wellington's immediate command the Allies numbered 75,000 men, but of this total no less then some 17,000 were returned as sick at the end of this month and the effectives present with the colours did not number more than 56,000 men.

At the same date General Hill's Corps to the south numbered some 25,000, including sick. On the side of the Allies must be counted an unknown quantity of Spanish troops who were only of use in so far that they kept the French occupied in various parts of the country.

In May, 1812, the official general state of the French Armies showed that they numbered 280,000 plus some 40,000 Spaniards in the French service. The French troops of course, were scattered far and wide over the Peninsula but the armies of Marmont, Soult and that of King Joseph in centre which may be regarded as forming a reserve to the two former numbered 64,000, 69,000 and 20,000 respectively, and it was with these armies that Lord Wellington had to reckon.[2] The magazines of Almeida, Ciudad Rodrigo, Elvas and Badajos being complete at last and his army assembled in the Augeda, Lord Wellington advanced and crossed the river on the 13th June moving in three columns[3] while some Spanish troops formed a fourth. Marmont, however, had no idea of fighting except at his own convenience and throwing a garrison into the three forts which he had constructed to cover the bridge of Salamanca with their fire, retired a few miles in a northerly direction.

As all the other bridges over the river Tormes had been destroyed the advance of the Allies appeared to be brought to a standstill by these forts, but crossing by two fords in the neighbourhood the Allies entered Salamanca on the 17th June amid the most extravagant demonstrations of joy on the part of the inhabitants. As this was the first appearance in Salamanca of a British force since the arrival of Sir John Moore's army in the autumn of 1808, since which time the inhabitants had been subjected to all the horrors of a French invasion and occupation, the delight of the inhabitants may perhaps be understood, the more so that they believed the arrival of Lord Wellington's army to mean their final deliverance from the French yoke. But the time for this was not yet. Like Sir John Moore, Lord Wellington advanced from Salamanca, and similarly, found it necessary to retire again towards Portugal, and Salamanca once more experienced a French occupation. Nevertheless, on this occasion the Spaniards gave the British army a frantic welcome; the women embraced the soldiers while Lord Wellington was nearly pulled from his horse[4] in the exuberance of their joy. The town had indeed suffered in the war, for of twenty-five convents, thirteen were in ruins and of the same number of colleges only three remained; the forts, to which the Allies now turned their attention, being constructed largely from the ruins. The strength of the forts had been much under-rated and as French engineers had been working at them for some three years, it was found necessary to undertake their reduction in regular form, and while the 6th Division under General Clinton set to work at this task, the rest of the Army including the 3rd Division occupied the heights of San Christoval some five miles in advance, covering the siege operations. The heights, however, while strong for defence, seemed to have been quite devoid of shelter and to be incapable of furnishing either wood or water to their occupants who for the latter, depended upon the generosity of the inhabitants of Salamanca; the question of wood seemed to offer more difficulty and the troops had to be content with stubbles and dry grass for their fuel.[5] Nor were the covering troops left altogether in peace for Marmont was not content to see the Salamanca forts fall into the Allies' hands without making an effort to save them, and collecting a force of about 25,000 men of all arms on the 20th June he advanced to their assistance. His movements in the open country were plainly visible from San Christoval where the Allies at once prepared for a fight with a position of which the flanks rested on the river Tormes. Marmont opened with a "thundering cannonade"[6] and massed his army in the plain before the allied position and almost within gunshot of it. His cannonade continued until dark when after driving in the outposts he seized a village close to the British lines. A general action on the following day now appeared certain, the more so that reinforcements had reached Marmont bringing up the numbers of his force to some 40,000 men, yet he seems to have been unable to harden his heart enough to commit his army to an assault on such a strong position. Further demonstrations and some skirmishing took place during the day, but in the evening Marmont withdrew his troops some six miles to the rear. For the moment pressure was relieved but on the 24th June the French General resumed his operations and detaching a portion of his force to the left bank of the Tormes endeavoured to communicate with the Salamanca forts round the British right flank. But the British General's commanding position on the heights of San Christoval gave him a clear view of all the French operations and enabled him to counter every move of his opponent, who after remaining in observation of the allied position for some days during which the forts were captured, finally retired to the Duero on the 28th June.

During these demonstrations the siege of the forts continued uninterruptedly but with only varying success, for the garrisons maintained a stout resistance and at least one attempt at escalade was repulsed with some loss to the Allies. Ammunition, too, ran short and the attack had to be suspended pending the arrival of fresh supplies from Almeida, and the arrival of the supplies on the 26th June was the signal for renewed activity in the conduct of the siege; batteries were re-armed and a storming party assembled on the morning of the 27th June when a white flag waved from one of the forts. A parley then ensued but judging that this was a mere artifice to gain time Lord Wellington ordered the assault when the forts fell almost without a shot being fired, their condition from fire within and artillery fire without being such as to render any further resistance practically impossible.[7]

Seven hundred prisoners, thirty guns, provisions, arms and clothing formed the material spoils of the victory, but more important still a secure passage over the Tormes was gained. The Allies on the other hand had lost nearly 500 men in the operations, the great majority of whom fell in the siege.

(*To be continued.*)

1 Kincaid. Adventures with the Rifle Brigade.
2 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
3 Despatches.
4 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
5 Kincaid. Adventures in the Rifle Brigade.
6 Ibid.
7 Napier.

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER FOR THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo fata vocant."

No. 355.] **Wednesday, 31st July, 1912.** **[Vol. XXX.**

CONTENTS.

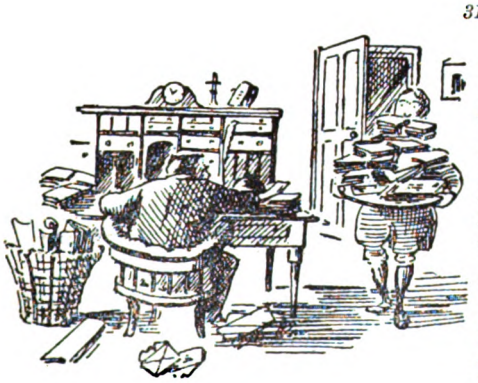
	Page		Page
The Editor's Corner	87	Colonel Lambton's Wedding ...	92
Our Contemporaries	87	Regimental Dinner...	92
Subscriptions Received	87	Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day	92
Births	87	"Salamanca"	92
Extracts from *London Gazette*...	87	A Modern Oil Field...	93
1st Battalion Notes	88	The Abor Expedition (*to be continued*)	95
2nd Battalion Notes	89	1812 in the Peninsula (*to be continued*)	96
4th Battalion Notes...	90	North Country Yarn	98
5th Battalion Notes....	91	Advertisements i. to viii. and Cover	
6th Battalion Notes...	91		
Answers to Correspondents ...	92		

THE EDITOR'S CORNER.

26, HANS CRESCENT,

LONDON, S.W.,

31st July, 1912.



Subscriptions to "ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE" *are as follows:—Officers (past and present) and their friends, 9d. per copy, post free 10d., or 10/- per annum, post free all over the world; Non-Commissioned Officers and men (past and present) and their friends, 2d. per copy, post free 3d.; or 3/- per annum, post free all over the world.*

Subscriptions should be sent to the Editor; they will be duly notified in the next number of the paper after the remittances have been received.

Subscriptions are due in advance; in the event of a subscription not being paid when due, a bill will be sent (this, however, will not be done in the case of Officers serving with their Battalions, their subscriptions being paid by the Mess President yearly); should a subscription not be paid within two months in the case of a subscriber at home, or three months in the case of a subscriber abroad, after such bill is sent out, it will be assumed that no more copies of the paper are wanted. The name will then be taken off the books.

It is particularly requested that all contributions intended for insertion be sent so as to reach the Editor NOT LATER *than the 25th of each month, in order to allow of punctual publication, and that contributions be written on* ONE SIDE *only of the paper.*

Subscribers changing their addresses, Officers proceeding on leave, and Non-Commissioned Officers and Men proceeding on furlough, or leaving the Regiment, should send their addresses to the Editor.

All communications to be sent direct to the Editor.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following papers:—

"The Army Service Corps Journal"
"Military Mail"
"The Queen's Own Gazette"
"The Globe and Laurel"
"The Green Howards' Gazette"
"The Naval and Military Record"
"The XXX."
"The R.M.A. Magazine"
"The Aldershot News"
"The Antelope"
"The Tiger and the Rose"
"The Black Horse Gazette"
"The Hampshire Regimental Journal"
"The Eagle"
"The Lion and the Rose"
"The Snapper"
"The Regiment"
"The 79th News"
"The Essex Regiment Gazette"
"The Argyllshire Highlanders Regimental News"
"The London Scottish Gazette"
"The Household Brigade Magazine"
"H.L.I. Chronicle"
"The Sapper"
"The Journal of the Royal Artillery"
"The China Dragon"
"The XI. Hussar Journal"
"The 6th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers' Magazine"
"The Suffolk Regimental Gazette"
"The Green Tiger"
"The Acorn"
"The White Lancer"
"The Ranger"
"The Leinsters' Magazine"
"The Dragon"
"The Lillywhites Gazette"
"The Thin Red Line"

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions and payments for *Gazettes* from:—

S. Young, Esq. ...	to 31/12/12	Sergeant Master-Tailor O'Donnell	to 30/ 4/13
G. H. P. Boyle, Esq. ...	,, 31/12/12	Mr. C. Kennedy	,, 31/ 5/13
Captain Girdwood	,, 31/12/12	Mr. A. Kenefec	,, 30/ 6/13
,, N. T. Lloyd ...	,, 31/12/12	Major K. O. Foster ...	,, 30/ 6/13
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Major Reavell	,, 31/ 3/13	Captain Lynch-Staunton	,, 31/12/13
Mr. Buckthought	,, 30/ 4/13	P.R.I., 1st Battalion Depôt Sales, April	
E. W. Milburn, Esq. ...	,, 30/ 4/13	Mr. J. Dalzell, April Advertisements.	
Major Spain	,, 30/ 4/13		
H. R. Smail, Esq.	,, 30/ 4/13		

BIRTHS.

HONE.—On the 12th May, at Mhow, India, the wife of No. 4898 Sergeant-Drummer C. Hone, 1st Battalion, of a son.

RICHARDSON.—On the 18th May, at Mhow, India, the wife of No. 5907 Sergeant C. W. Richardson, 1st Battalion, of a daughter.

EXTRACTS FROM *The London Gazette*:—

NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Supernumerary-Captain A. C. Girdwood, D.S.O., is restored to the establishment (dated 22nd June, 1912).

5TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Second-Lieutenant I. M. Tweedy to be Lieutenant (dated 8th June, 1912).

7TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Second-Lieutenant R. Lord resigns his commission (dated 3rd July, 1912).

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1st Battalion Notes.

MHOW, INDIA,
24th June, 1912.

CONTRARY to all expectations Polo is still in full swing as the local weather prophets have proved false and the monsoon hasn't yet broken. We were told to expect it in the first week of June, but beyond two or three thunderstorms we have so far had no rain.

There is great likelihood of there being a shortage of water unless we have plentiful rains this year and already we hear rumours of spending our last year in India under canvas by the Nerbudda.

Many of us dreamed of stables full of ponies and a garage crammed with cars before the 12th June came and went and blighted our hopes. Nearly all of us had tickets for the Calcutta Sweep but there were no telegrams telling us we had drawn "Tagalie" or even an entered horse. Mr. Vachell won the Club Sweep which left only a small surplus on his club bill.

Captain Sandilands has gone on leave for two months and Mr. Platt has returned from Poona where he was an instructor at the School of Signalling.

We are at present in the middle of a Hockey Tournament open to British troops in the Garrison. A, D and C Companies are still left in and we hope one of them at least will reach the final.

The few thunder showers we have had have laid the dust and made polo more like itself instead of having to play on a dust-bound ground where ghostly figures loom up like ships in a fog.

All our tiger hunters have returned, with one success, Mr. Cogan scoring the first tiger for the Regiment. He assures us the one he shot was not nearly so big as one he failed to bag. Mr. Selby among his other trophies has returned with a limp but feels he has little to learn in the art of catch-as-catch-can with a bear. Our shikaries are now pursuing the wily bull in Part 1.

Captain Sandilands and Mr. Lamb have delivered interesting lectures this month, the former on Hindu Idols, the latter on the Four Company System, both of which were greatly appreciated by the audience.

We have to congratulate Mr. Bonham Carter on the arrival of a son and heir.

The following Appointments have been made:—

PIG-STICKING IN THE 1ST BATTALION.

To be paid Lance-Corporals:—

No. 2412	Lance-Corporal	J. White	from 11/5/12
,, 1491	,,	J. Drayson	,, 8/6/12
,, 2613	,,	F. W. Lote	,, 14/6/12

To be unpaid Lance-Corporals:—

No. 823	Private	H. Gillespie	from 25/6/12

No. 69 Corporal G. Prophet and No. 9949 Lance-Corporal J. A. Wodehouse have extended their service to complete 12 years' service with the Colours.

No. 7098 Sergeant F. Cossey is transferred to the Indian Unattached List for employment as a store sergeant in the Ordnance Department with effect from the 15th February, 1911. [Authority: D.A.A.G. 8th (Lucknow) Division No. A/P.F/798/3, dated 28th May, 1912.]

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No. 9627 Private D. Hunt, 3rd Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps, is transferred to the Battalion with effect from the 1st June, 1912.

Certificates of Education have been awarded as under:—

1st Class :—

(dated 26/3/12).

No. 8766 Drummer E. Hitchens

2nd Class :—

(dated 31/5/12).

No. 2467	Private	J. Thompson	No. 2251	Private	F. Collard
„ 1926	„	A. Simmonds	„ 2835	„	F. Wright
„ 2774	„	J. Piggott	„ 2255	„	W. Loder

No. 1943 Lance-Corporal L. Thorne

3rd Class :—

(dated 31/5/12).

No. 2845	Pte.	J. Jordan	No. 1544	Pte.	C. Cambridge
„ 883	„	W. Eddy	„ 2832	„	W. McDonald
„ 1132	„	P. Coe	„ 1968	„	J. Waters
„ 2936	„	J. Upton	„ 2918	„	O. Chaney

No. 2084 Private J. Proctor

Good Conduct Badges have been awarded as under:—

No. 2707	Private	W. Wright	1	from	26/ 8/11
„ 2664	„	C. Green	1	„	13/11/11
„ 2414	„	W. Middleton	1	„	4/ 1/12
„ 2782	„	G. Gill	1	„	28/ 2/12
„ 774	„	A. Buglass	2	„	22/ 3/12
„ 2512	„	H. Sykes	2	„	27/ 5/12
„ 2827	„	L. Taylor	1	„	1/ 6/12
„ 2645	„	A. Welsh	1	„	3/ 6/12
„ 2822	„	A. Boothman	2	„	4/ 6/12
„ 3112	„	G. Blazer	2	„	5/ 6/12
„ 1003	„	A. Sawyer	2	„	6/ 6/12
„ 2293	„	W. Hurley	1	„	11/ 6/12
„ 860	„	C. Jukes	2	„	12/ 6/12
„ 1991	„	G. Lowe	2	„	12/ 6/12
„ 9477	„	H. Sole	2	„	15/ 6/12
„ 2649	„	W. Keeling	1	„	18/ 6/12

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

On the 15th inst. we had a Tennis "At Home." Many friends in the Garrison attended and an enjoyable afternoon was spent. Just at the conclusion, however, the monsoon burst and we had to seek shelter in the Mess.

We had another very successful Whist Drive and Dance on the 19th. There were twenty-five tables, though many people were present who did not play. Miss Marchant, a visitor, won the first prize for ladies, and Miss Down the second. The first prize for men was won by Colour-Sergeant Price, and Sergeant-Major Wooll and Sergeant Luke tied for the second, which was secured by the latter in the draw.

Nothing of individual interest has occurred during the month. The 14th Hussars have invited us to a series of contests on the 3rd prox. Besides shooting the programme includes various games at cards and billiards. It is long since we have had any shooting, and we can hardly hope our "cracks" to be in form. Still, we shall try to put up a good fight all round.

2nd Battalion Notes.

Devils Bridge Camp,
Aberystwith,
23rd July, 1912.

THE real name of our camp is Yspytty Cynfyn, but for the sake of our readers and correspondents it has been re-named as above. The camp is situated in the Rheidol Valley, Cardiganshire, some 13 miles from Aberystwith and 1½ miles from Devils Bridge.

We arrived at Llanidloes from Sheffield and Pontefract on the morning of the 1st July, after an uncomfortable night in the train, and found our camp to be some 19 miles distant.

The Battalion accomplished this march in two stages, halting half way for dinners, and reached the camp at about 5 p.m.

An accident which might have had more serious consequences befel the cyclists of the Brigade. It appears that while going round a very sharp bend on a steep hill the leading cyclists came to grief, bringing down several with them. Three men of the East Yorkshire Regiment broke arms and sustained other injuries, while Private Whelan of D Company appeared to be more seriously hurt, remaining unconscious for a considerable time, having a fractured jaw and other injuries to his head. He is now in Shrewsbury Hospital, and we are glad to hear is making satisfactory progress.

The 18th Brigade consists of ourselves, the 14th, 15th East Yorkshire Regiment, and the 80th South Staffordshire Regiment, under Brigadier-General Congreve, V.C. The 14th have only just arrived from India where for a long time they were stationed with the 1st Battalion.

Up to date we have been very fortunate in the weather, and have been carrying out Battalion training and field firing. A field firing range has been built in the valley not far from the camp.

At the end of the month Brigade Sports are to be held. The best Companies from each Battalion will compete in tug-of-war, bayonet fighting and a field-firing competition. Each Battalion will enter a Regimental team for a Khud race. There is also to be a pony race and sheep dog trials for the farmers and shepherds over whose land we manœuvre.

The inhabitants of the district have been most hospitable and kind in making us feel at home. A dance was given at Aberystwith last week by the North Cardiganshire Dance Committee, to which all the officers in the Brigade were invited. Our Regimental band, under Mr. Cooper, provided the music and played a most excellent programme.

Practically all the private lakes in the district have been

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thrown open to us, and many officers have taken advantage of the trout fishing. Unfortunately the weather has been somewhat adverse and the bag consequently small.

The Borth Golf Club has made the whole Brigade honorary members, a privilege which is much appreciated.

This year one day a week is given up as a whole holiday. This is a great boon and opportunity for holding sports, playing our Company cricket matches, etc.

We must congratulate Private Hebbron, of C Company, on his performance in the Army and Navy Billiard Championship. In reaching the 5th round at York, he won the championship of the Northern Command, beating Sergeant-Major Toone, West Yorkshire Regiment, by 72. His best best breaks were 51, 48 (twice), 40 and 31. In the next three rounds he drew byes, there being no opponents in the Northern Command, but in the 9th round, played at Edinburgh against the champion of the Scottish Command, Sergeant Page, R.F.A., he won by 82 points in a game of 400. In the 10th round, played at Thurston's Billiard Hall, Leicester Square, he was defeated by Sergeant-Major Wask, R.F.A., by 16 points in a game of 400, after a very close match in which Private Hebbron made several good breaks.

On the 24th July the officers played a tennis match against the Cardiganshire County Tennis Club at Aberystwith; the Regimental team consisted of Major Ainslie, Messrs. Fletcher, Nicholls, Trench, Molineux and Williams. After an excellent match we finally won by five matches to four.

No. 5234 Lance-Sergeant W. Parish was discharged on on the 30th ult. at his own request after 12 years.

No. 1264 Lance-Sergeant A. Bosten, D Company, was appointed Battalion Signalling Sergeant on the 14th ult.

No. 7176 Bandsman R. Wickham re-engaged to complete 21 years' service on the 26th ult.

The following Appointments have been made:—

To be unpaid Lance-Corporals:—

No. 3041	Private	C. Chadwick	from 28/6/12
„ 9188	„	H. Grayson	„ 8/7/12
„ 2425	„	G. Douglas	„ 8/7/12
„ 3155	„	W. Hawdin	„ 10/7/12
„ 3222	„	L. Henry	„ 10/7/12
„ 3310	„	A. Chapman	„ 11/7/12
„ 2200	„	A. Leith	„ 16/7/12
„ 2942	„	T. Green	„ 16/7/12
„ 2958	„	J. Matthews	„ 18/7/12

To be Pioneer:—

No. 2908	Private	J. White	from 11/7/12

No. 3369 Boy W. J. Bishop transferred to the 1st Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment on the 5th inst.

The following Bayonet Team fights for the Battalion Championship took place in the Camp at Devils Bridge, with the following results:—

12th July	—B Company	beat	D Company	...	7 fights	to 1
13th „	—B „	„	H „	...	7 „	1
17th „	—E „	„	B „	...	5 „	4

In the final fight, E v. B, it was necessary for the leaders to fight off, and in this Colour-Sergeant Pearce beat Sergeant Woods.

In the 110 stone Tug-of-War Competition A Company beat B Company by 2 pulls to 1, and E Company beat D Company by 2 pulls to 1.

On the 6th inst. the Battalion played the 14th at Push Ball and after a hard tussle the 14th were victorious by 2 tries to *nil*. The game caused much amusement in camp, and was much appreciated by the troops.

The Battalion Cricket Cup is to be played for while in camp, and Bayonet Fighting and Tug-of-War (Catch Weights) are also being decided, the latter two competitions to decide who shall represent the Battalion as best Company in the forthcoming Brigade Sports.

The results up to date are as follows:—

TUG-OF-WAR.

D Company	beat	B Company		
E	„	„	A	„
E	„	„	D	„
H	„	„	G	„
H	„	„	F	„

The final to represent the Battalion remains to be decided between E and H Companies.

A Camp Concert was held in camp on the 18th inst. before a large and appreciative audience. The following contributed to the programme and were the cause of much laughter and fun:—

Drummer Langtry	"The old usuals"
Private Clarkburn	"The Irish Jubilee"
„ Jordan	Cake Walk
Boy Dove, West Yorkshire Regiment	Song and Dance
Private Potter	Welsh Song
„ Merrillées	Song, "Bunty"

Other contributors were Private Burns, Parsons, Johnston and Spencer. The Band rendered excellent music before and during the concert.

4th Battalion Notes.

HEXHAM,
23rd July, 1912.

OUR second week's training at Scarborough was carried out under rather more settled weather conditions, and some useful instructional work was carried out. G Company (Newburn), having no rifle range of their own, spent one day at Strensall in carrying out the Standard Musketry Test. Unfortunately

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owing to the exigencies of their civil employment, 120 of our men had to leave for home at the end of the first week, and as only forty men joined for the second week our numbers were much reduced.

We were very pleased to receive a flying visit from our late Commanding Officer, Colonel J. M. Clark, V.D., who managed to spend a few hours with his old corps.

As the 5th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment were taking over our camp equipment a few days after we left Scarborough the tents and marquees were left standing. The Battalion entrained at Scarborough at 8 a.m. on Sunday, the 30th ult., and by 1.30 p.m. all the Companies had reached their headquarters.

All Companies, except Newburn, are now busily engaged in completing their Musketry Training, and pleasant Saturday excursions to various remote parts of the county are being arranged for officers able to devote the necessary time to superintend the marking at the Standard Tests of Companies other than their own.

5th Battalion Notes.

HEADQUARTERS, WALKER-ON-TYNE,
22nd July, 1912.

THE held our Annual Prize Shooting Meeting at Whitley Bay Range on the 20th and 21st inst. when ten challenge cups and some eighty other prizes were competed for.

A week-end camp was held, when between 250 and 300 attended. The Commanding Officer, Colonel MacDonald; Major Myles; the Adjutant, Captain Saltau-Symons, and fifteen other officers were present. Captain Carlile had charge of the shooting arrangements and was assisted by Captains Luhrs, Nash, Irwin, Proud and Harle, Lieutenants Stobart, Phillips, Forrett, Tweedy, Toovey, Bainbridge, Kinsella and Dodds. The Sergeant-Major and Permanent Staff also assisted at firing points and butts. Shooting was carried on from 1.30 p.m. on Saturday till dusk, and on Sunday from 4 a.m. till close on mid-day. In the Battalion Cup upwards of 250 competed, and the Recruits' Cup had over 100 entries. The results of the principal events were as follows:—

Battalion Cup.—1st, Cup and 18/4, Corporal Armstrong, E Company; 2nd, 18/4, Sergeant Hogg, E Company; 3rd, 18/4, Lance-Sergeant Johnson, H Company, (the first three tied for Cup and had to shoot off and divide money); 4th, Captain Luhrs; 5th, Sergeant Webster; 6th, Private Lewins; 7th, Sergeant Potts; 8th, Captain Nash; 9th, Lieutenant Forrett; 10th, Sergeant E. Thompson, etc.

Officers' Cup.—1st, Cup, Captain Nash; 2nd, Silver Spoon, Lieutenant Tweedy.

South African Cup.—1st, Cup and 17/-, Sergeant Thompson, G Company; 2nd, 10/-, Sergeant Ruff, D Company; 3rd, 10/-, Lance-Sergeant Johnson, H Company.

Old Soldiers' Cup.—1st, Cup and 10/-, Sergeant Offord; 2nd, 7/6, Sergeant Rush; 3rd, 5/-, Sergeant Stanley.

"*P.S.*" *Prize.*—1st, Sergeant Offord; 2nd, Sergeant Stanley; 3rd, Colour-Sergeant Durham.

Long Distance Cup.—1st, Cup, Lieutenant Phillips; 2nd, Lieutenant Tweedy; 3rd, Captain Nash; 4th, Lieutenant Bainbridge; 5th, Captain Luhrs; 6th, Private Bell, E Company.

Rapid Firing Cup.—1st, Cup and 17/-, Sergeant Webster, A Company; 2nd, Captain Luhrs; 3rd, 10/-, Drummer Ford; 4th, 10/-, Private Lewins; 5th, Lieutenant Phillips.

Reid Cup (Company Team).—1st, Cup and £2, F Company; 2nd, £1, G and H Company divide. Eight teams shot.

Sectional Cup.—1st, Cup and £2 2s., No. 4 Section, A Company, Sergeant Webster; 2nd, £1 1s., No. 3 Section, G Company, Sergeant E. Thompson. Fifteen teams entered.

Recruits' Cup.—1st, Cup and 17/-, Private W. Conroy, E Company; 2nd, 12/6, Private Aitcheson, H Company; 3rd, 5/6, Private J. Browning, D Company; 4th, 5/6, Private Biggarstaff, A Company; and fourteen other prizes.

Considering that both trained men and recruits had to fire at Figure Target No. 3 (Silhouette), as used by trained regulars, it was surprising the number of possibles made. In the Rapid Cup, fifteen rounds in a minute, the winner only dropped a few points under the possible.

Our scouts are having special training under Lieutenant Tweedy; at present they are being taught to swim in the Wallsend Baths.

6th Battalion Notes.

SCARBOROUGH,
25th July, 1912.

THE hope to be strongly represented at the forthcoming Morpeth Rifle Meeting.

The Battalion Rifle Meeting will be held on the 24th prox., and is likely to be very well attended.

Recruiting promises to be very favourable for the forthcoming year, several men have already expressed their wish to join.

Our Annual Camp was most popular, and passed off without a hitch. The Brigadier's annual inspection was a creditable show and earned a favourable report.

The musketry of the Battalion has improved vastly, but is still much below what it ought to be. At present over 500 of all ranks have qualified in the Standard Test; the two days at Strensall facilitated this.

We propose to hold an Inter-Company Bayonet Fighting Competition and Individual Bayonet Fighting Competition.

The men's room has been well attended since camp.

Monthly Dances will be held for the men commencing from October.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. J. GARNETT.—*Thanks for your verses which we will use if possible.* COLONEL PEARSE-HOBBS.—*The omission to which you refer was an accident; the list goes in in this number.* "J. H."—*We will use your poem as soon as space is available.* S. C. BISHOP.—*The point is a little difficult to decide without reference to Historical Records which are not at hand just now; but we will not forget the matter.* MAJOR BODDAM-WHETHAM.—*Thanks for your story; we are always glad to have these contributions.* COLOUR-SERGEANT JENKINS.—*Your notes are unavoidably crowded out this month.*

COLONEL LAMBTON'S WEDDING.

THE marriage of Colonel Charles Lambton, D.S.O., late of the Regiment, to Miss Marion Garforth took place at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, on the 22nd inst. and was numerously attended, many past and present officers of the Regiment being among the guests.

Among those who sent presents were General and Mrs. Bigge, Colonels Biddulph, Sapte, Robinson, Kilgour and Enderby, Colonel and Mrs. Cherry, Colonel and Mrs. Dashwood, Colonel and Mrs. Armstrong, Colonel and Mrs. Sturges, Colonel and Mrs. Graeme, Colonel and Mrs. Whitaker, Colonel and Mrs. Riddell; Majors Caulfeild, Sant, Crispin, Buckley, Percival, Ainslie, Shoubridge and Armstrong; while telegrams of congratulation were received from the 5th Fusiliers at Devil's Bridge Camp, Colonel Sitwell ("Ootacamund"), Colonel and Mrs. Money, Major and Mrs. Malet, Major and Mrs. Thomson, Sergeants Hutton and Fenton, and very many others.

A number of old 5th Fusiliers of the London Branch of the Corps of Commissionaries attended the ceremony in uniform and among them were Sergeant-Major G. Redhead, Quartermaster-Sergeant J. T. Rowland, Colour-Sergeant-Instructors of Musketry J. Newton and A. Lloyd, Colour-Sergeants J. Francis and R. McGowan, Band-Sergeant T. Woodage, Sergeant-Cook W. G. Knight, Sergeants W. Killick and J. Burton, Corporals W. Smith and G. Palmer, Bandsman D. Thompson, Private W. Gurdon and Drummer C. Murphy.

Later in the afternoon Colonel and Mrs. Lambton left by motor for Harraton House, Newmarket, lent to them for the honeymoon by the Earl of Durham.

REGIMENTAL DINNER.

THE following officers were present at the Annual Dinner at the Imperial Restaurant on the 6th June:—Colonels Armstrong, Hart-Dyke, Biddulph, Pearse-Hobbs, Heathcote, Enderby, Dashwood, Sapte, Sturges, Darley, James and Hargreave; Majors Shoubridge, Caulfeild, Ainslie, Harding, Crispin, Percival, Buckley, Thomson, Morley, Leach and Fishbourne; Captains Carthew, Gething, Hon. N. Gathorne-Hardy, Cruddas, White, Festing, Wright, Hart, Gibbes, Blair-Imrie, Lynch-Staunton, Auld, Braithwaite, Bevan, Montagu, De H. Larpent, Jones and Leslie; Lieutenants Stephen, Watkin, Jackson, Leverson and Chenevix-Trench; Messrs. Hervey-Bathurst, Willans and Westmacott.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY.

EXTRACTS FROM *ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE*, JULY 30TH, 1887.

COLCHESTER, Saturday, 30th July, 1887.—For the benefit of our numerous readers not in the 1st Battalion we may mention that we left Newry punctually at 7.15 a.m. on Friday, July 1st, by special train for Dublin, reaching Amiens Street Station about eleven o'clock; from there we marched to the Westland Row Station and entrained for Kingstown. Reaching the harbour about 12.30 we found H.M.S. *Tamar* drawn up by the jetty, and we were soon on board and told off to our different messes . . . . then at 7 p.m. . . . we steamed out of harbour. . . . From Kingstown to Portsmouth there was scarcely a ripple on the sea, much to the disappointment of those who wanted to show what good sailors they were, and to the even greater delight of those who for the past month had been dreading the voyage . . . and, coming through the Needles, arrived at Spithead on Sunday morning, about 9 o'clock.

On Monday morning early we steamed into harbour and drew alongside the jetty, and soon after we were visited by some old friends—Major-General and the Misses Oldfield, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Thistlethwayte and Major Lambart. The married families and heavy baggage left for Colchester by special train at 9.40 a.m., under Major Way and Lieutenant Casson, and the Headquarters left for Aldershot, under Colonel P. FitzRoy, at 12.50 p.m. . . . marched to our camp on Rushmore Hill and found it ready pitched . . . . and then commenced a hot and dusty week of camp life.

Saturday, July 9th, was a beautiful day and not so hot as had been feared. The dust was very trying, however, and there was a good deal of thirst knocking about. As the review has been written about *ad nauseum*, suffice it to say that the Battalion acquitted itself right well and received its fair share of applause on marching past.

On Monday, 11th, the Battalion left for Colchester.

The *Times* correspondent in his account of the Royal Review at Aldershot on the 9th inst., wrote:—"The leading regiment of the Fusilier Brigade was the 1st Battalion of the Northumberland Fusiliers, with Colours bearing a noble roll of victories, especially Peninsular victories. These Northumbrians were, as might have been expected, burly-looking fellows as a rule, and under Lieutenant-Colonel J. Vincent [Colonel FitzRoy was in command of the Brigade, Ed., *St. G.G.*] they went past in three double Companies in a most creditable manner."

2ND BATTALION NOTES.—The omission of the 2nd Battalion Notes last month was a great oversight, for which we ask the pardon of the Editor.

There is little to say about Meean Meer since we wrote last. Luckily, we had a good downpour the other day, which has greatly cooled the air, and, taking things on the whole, we have had a very nice summer so far—thank Providence, our last in Meean Meer.

DOGS.—Private Fewtrill (F Company) and Private Robinson (C Company), under the Provost-Sergant, are authorised to shoot all dogs found without collars from the 24th inst.

"SALAMANCA."

WE have received permission from the Editor of the *Nineteenth Century* to print, from an article in the July number, some extracts concerning the 5th Regiment at the Battle of Salamanca, July 22nd, 1812. Captain Synge, on whose experiences the article is based, was serving in the 10th Hussars, and at the time of the battle was A.D.C.

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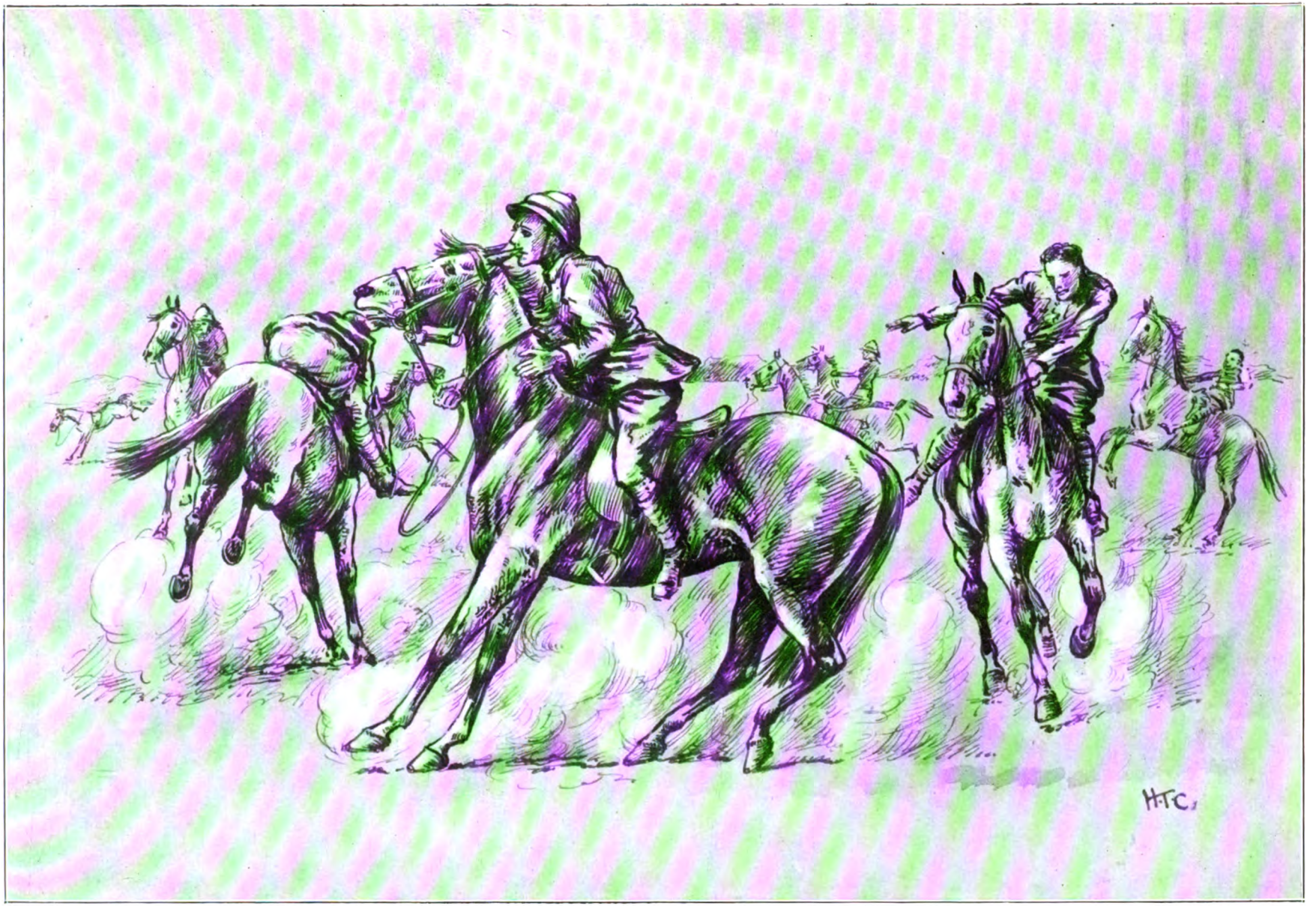

That is what we are known as—We are the beggars that got
Three days "to learn Equitation," and six months o' bloomin well trot!
Cow-guns, an' cattle, an' convoys—an Mister De Wet on the fly—
We are the rollin' Ikonas! We are the—M.I.!

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to General Pack, who commanded a Portuguese Brigade on the left of the British line when the action began. How he came to be with the 3rd Division on the opposite side of the British line and a long way from his General, Captain Synge does not relate; but his story, if not altogether accurate, has a human interest which is, perhaps, lacking in the other but more accurate account which we publish.

"No sooner was it decided to attack than orders were given that the two columns of divisions should form two lines, facing the heights. Our leading division, the 3rd, now became the right of our front line, and was ordered to move at once to attack the enemy's leading division; and to overthrow it, if possible, before it could receive support. This operation could not have been confided to better hands. Sir Edward Pakenham, whom I knew very well, and who was always particularly kind to me, had hitherto been acting as Assistant-Adjutant-General, which did not at all suit his taste or ambition to distinguish himself in command of a corps; but, whenever he mentioned his wish to the Duke, his brother-in-law, he only got snubbed for his pains and advised to stay as he was.

"Now, however, owing to the absence of Sir Thomas Picton, he was placed in command of the 3rd Division. He commenced his attack with his right Brigade, in which were both Battalions of the 5th Regiment, and while he was giving them their orders he addressed a few words to them:—'This was the first time he had commanded a Division, and he looked now to the 5th Regiment for a character.'

"His character was in safe hands and was soon made, for nothing could surpass the brilliancy of the whole operation. The leading Brigade of the enemy had made the best disposition in their power to meet Pakenham, but 'he would not be denied'—went bang at them and knocked them over or rolled them up whenever they attempted to rally. Even when their cavalry tried to stop 'The Fifth,' they threw back only one of their wings and received them with the other in line; and, after a moment's destructive firing, actually moved on against the cavalry in that shape.

"So complete was the overthrow, and so excited were the victors, that Mr. Bolton, carrying *both* colours of the Fifth (the officer who carried the other having fallen in the last charge), was moving so fast that Pakenham rode up to him and said:—'If I cannot stop the Fifth from doing too much, I must only cut down the officer carrying the colours.'"

A MODERN OILFIELD.

(ILLUSTRATED BY PHOTOGRAPHS BY THE AUTHOR).

BY H.S.T.

ONE reads of expeditions being fitted out to hunt for hidden treasure in weird parts of the world or, as recently, off the coast of Scotland, companies being formed to recover from the ocean, the valuables from a sunken Spanish ship which went down when the Armada made its disastrous effort against England, but few had thought of looking for a fortune on the arid, barren coast line of Western South America.

Eight years ago a Scotchman, who owned and was working flour mills in Peru, was grousing in the little local club at the price the local Government was charging him for oil to run his machinery with and declared that, rather than pay such exorbitant rates, he would go out and find his own oilfield. There is many a true word spoken in jest!

It was an established fact that, along a length of some 60 miles of coast owned by this Republic, patches of oil had been seen, here and there, floating on the sea, close to shore.

This pointed to three probabilities; firstly, that there was oil under the ocean bed which could not be utilised even if found. Secondly, that as the oil was always near shore there was a chance that an oilfield might be located which extended inland. Thirdly, if such an extension existed, the oil would be in the same strata as that which had come to the surface on the sea and the best chance of tapping it would be to hug the high water level as closely as possible because, the higher inland one went, the higher would become the surface of the soil and consequently the deeper down under the surface, the oil.

For 1,200 miles the coast line is a barren strip of rocks and mountains whose kloofs and crevices on the seaward side are silted up with sand which has been lifted, through past ages, by the wind into its present position. There are no trails, no villages, and no vegetation.

This waste nominally belongs to someone, probably to individuals who have never set foot on it or even want to. And the Peruvian land laws lay down that although man may own land he has no right to the minerals in it. Anyone can go prospecting on his property, compensating him, if a find is discovered, for the value of the land worked over.

Our Scotchman, searching along the beach, at last came to a place showing indications of oil on the sea and also some highly petroliferous sandstone on the shore near by. He decided that, although far below and out of reach at present, he had struck oil in the true sense of the phrase.

Not an expert himself, he soon brought across men who were and two shafts were shortly sunk proving the wealth of his find. The owner of the land was next sought for and bought out.

Everything was now plain sailing but a single man unless he is a millionaire cannot make an industry spring up in the midst of a desert. However Peru, seeing a chance of keeping a local supply of oil in her own hands, chipped in and suggested that if the finder would sell his rights they would supply money for the enterprise and appoint him manager. He closed with the offer and made a fortune on the deal.

The venture was not a success and four years ago, it was taken over from the Government by a company who still kept on the original manager and floated the enterprise in England, with a capital of half a million pounds sterling, shares which have since largely increased in value. Other prospectors attracted to the district have latterly struck fresh places where the oil can be tapped, more companies have been formed so that at the present day this portion of Peru has attracted a large amount of money and is the centre of a valuable industry.

Such is the brief and curious history of a fortune reclaimed from what, at first sight, appeared to be one of the most forsaken stretches of useless desert in the world.

Day after day we had been steaming parallel to a monotonous desolate coast line. Hundreds of miles of arid sand and bare blackened mountains with never a sign of any form of life, human or vegetable. Even on board ship you realised what a furnace blast the hot air, shimmering up from the sand, must be like to anyone landing.

Then, one morning, the ship turned her nose shorewards and we approached a little isolated settlement of many spire-like towers and a few cabins. It was the head-quarters of one of the oil companies—the one described above—and, instead of filling up with coal, we were going to take in a supply of oil.

Our steamer was a modern one and had been built to consume oil-fuel as well as old fashioned coal.

A cheery, healthy, man came off. You could have sworn, to put it kindly, that he was a half-caste. When he spoke you knew he was a pure Scot. Six years in the open and under that sun had tanned him through and through.

Several accepted his invitation to come ashore, go up to his bungalow and worry him with questions about this strange looking colony whilst he shewed us his garden.

He was justly proud of the "garden." It was a little patch of mud, probably brought up from the bowels of the earth through an oil pipe, as nothing but sand and rock was visible anywhere else. The patch was fenced round with matting and a similar material roofed it overhead, a necessary protection against the scorching sun.

Inside were perhaps a dozen plants and some creepers hanging desperately to the matting. Our host explained that the "garden" was kept alive by the joint efforts of the white community but we did not quite understand the point of this remark until asking where the water supply was.

Every drop of water used in that colony was extracted from the ocean by condensation and the apparatus was none too big—therefore, washing water even when second hand was not a thing to be wasted. It rained occasionally, every ten years or so, but at present they were a bit short on the average fall as the last rain in these parts was in 1895—17 years ago—so they looked forward, reasonably, to a little this year or perhaps the next. That would help the "garden" along famously when it came.

The day was young and, after three weeks on board ship being short of exercise, we started on a tour of exploration round the place.

The heat coming off a fiery ground, fairly blistered one's feet, even through stout boots. The glare made you blink and wish for blue goggles.

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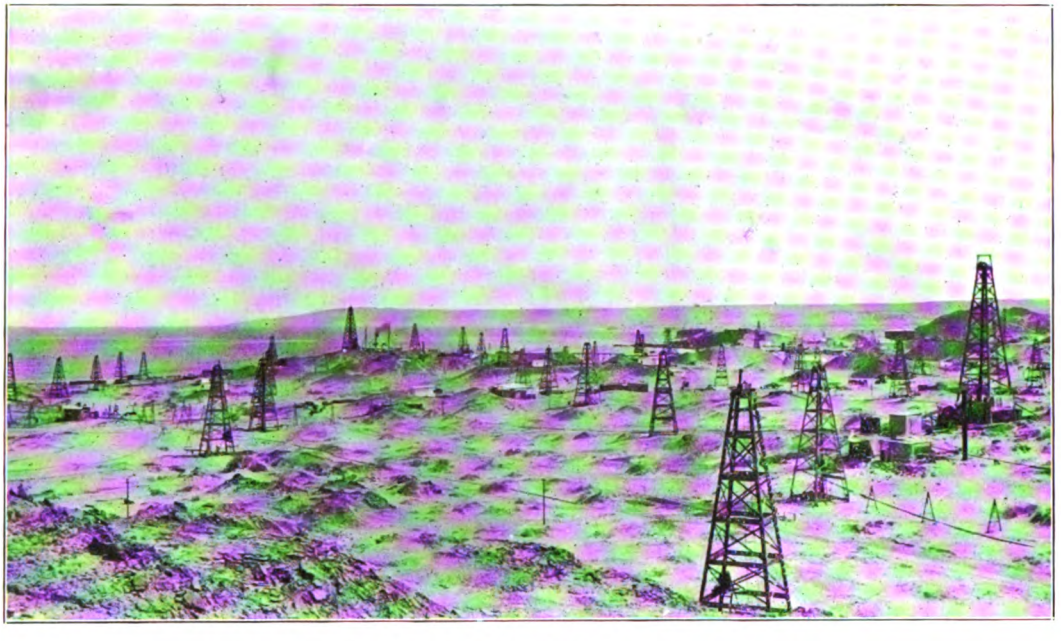
A few sandy-coloured lizards represented the animal kingdom. They looked fat enough, but, what they fed on unless it was sand, is a mystery.



THE OIL FIELDS.
(From a photograph by Captain H. S. Toppin).

Here and there were apologies for bushes—clumps of white shrivelled thorns which, in spite of their appearance, had apparently sucked in enough moisture during that last rainfall to keep them going till the next came along. In fact the country came up to the conclusions we had formed about it before landing.

But of the oil. One 100 shafts are now working and the deepest pipe is sunk 3,000 feet in the earth and is drawing oil from that enormous depth.

This shaft was originally working at a much shallower level but, when the supply became exhausted they drilled further down as an experiment, and struck another rich layer of oil at the depth mentioned, which is now being sucked up to the surface.

The supply of oil, although not in the quantities one hears of in North America seems inexhaustible.

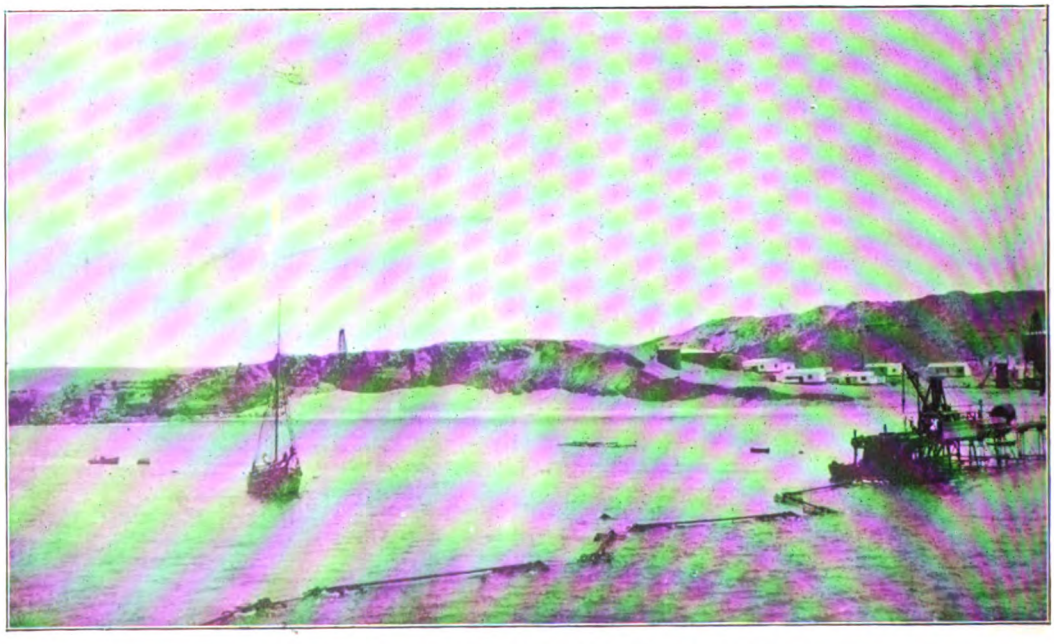
Sometimes wells get silted up but new ones are being continually opened, the procedure being to select a likely spot and then, by machinery drive a tube in sections, into the ground. Each section as it is hammered in flush with the surface, has a fresh portion screwed unto it and is in its turn rammed downwards till the required depth is reached. The liquid is then drawn up through the pipe by suction.

This drilling is the main item of expenditure—10 shillings a foot—and mounts up when oil is 1,000 yards, or more than half a mile, underfoot. With storage tanks on the beach and thence direct into the holds of steamers, inland carriage is eliminated.

So far, in the small area tapped, whenever a shaft has been drilled, the liquid has been found, some of the borings being on the water's edge and within a few hundred yards of the pier from which boats draw their supplies so that once the initial cost of drilling has been incurred, expenses are practically nil.

One well inspected was yielding 180 barrels daily and had, when first tapped produced 300.

Every six to eight wells are pumped by one central engine and automatically empty the oil as it comes up into storage



THE OIL FIELDS: FLOATING PIPE LINE FROM PIER TO SHIP.
(From a photograph by Captain H. S. Toppin).

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tanks on the beach. Allotted to each central engine is one native and a notice is posted on the hut that protects it to the effect that if he quits or sleeps on his post during his tour of duty, he will get the sack.

I feel I ought to explain that this account of a modern oil-field has only been sent to the long suffering Editor of the *St. George's Gazette* in case he should ever find himself so short of copy as to think it worth publishing and is not a gratuitous puff for any of the companies working here.

After which explanation I shall feel justified in consigning to the waste paper basket with an easy conscience letters from angry speculators who have lost their money in oil shares on the strength of my article or, kicking myself if anyone tells me that as a result of it he has amassed wealth.

A few hardy Englishmen, sunscorched like the manager, supervise the whole concern, cantering through the sand from station to station on sturdy imported ponies.

This handful of white men are well paid and they deserve what they earn for, marooned in this forsaken waterless desert, they are making money for people who live comfortably at home.

Their only distraction is a tiny club room and mealtimes when an excellent Chinese cook does full justice to stores left by passing vessels.

These same meals are cooked over an oil fire for with the exception of a little coal kept in the blacksmith's shop for emergencies, it is the only fuel available.

We realised on returning to the ship the advantage of oil over coal for liners.

A pipe on floating logs had been run out from the shore to the steamer's tanks and she was quietly filling up.

There was no yelling, shouting stream of natives depositing the contents of their baskets into the bunkers and one went on aboard to find every thing as clean as when she dropped anchor instead of, under the old system, begrimed all over with coal dust.

THE ABOR EXPEDITION.

Specially written for the "Snapper," by Captain E. F. G. Poole, D.S.O., East Yorkshire Regiment. Official War Correspondent with the Column.

(*By permission of the Editor of the "Snapper."*)

DIBRUGARH, *5th October, 1911.*

PRELIMINARY OPERATIONS.

THE *Battani* with General Bower, his staff and the 8th Gurkhas *en route* for Kobo has arrived here. The *Sherani* with part of the 2nd Gurkhas is expected shortly. Mr. Bentinck, Deputy-Commissioner, will accompany the expedition.

The Volunteers chosen from the Assam Valley Light Horse to form a machine gun team, are assembling after vicissitudes and heartburnings owing to the unwillingness of their employers on the plantations to spare them. Some have resigned their positions, while two have given up their commissions in the corps to serve on the expedition—one as a sergeant, the other as a gunner. It will be remembered with what alacrity the corps assembled voluntarily on receipt of the news of Mr. Williamson's death. The party which consists of twelve is under the command of Captain Lovell.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE ADVANCE.

KOBO, *11th October.*

The difficulties of water transport owing to accidents and the varying rise and fall of the river having been successfully overcome the entire force with five corps of carriers is now concentrated with their supplies, and the work of preparing the roads for the advance is being pushed on as rapidly as the unfavourable weather conditions prevailing permit.

Rain is still falling. Bush warfare is practised by the troops in camp, the procedure being that the carriers armed with spears move in groups of six, every group being followed by one sepoy and every six groups by a party of ten sepoys—an average of one sepoy to every two carriers considerably lessening the vulnerability of a long snaky column moving through thick jungle in Indian file. The groups of soldiers and porters provide in this way defensible parties keeping the track open for the remainder to pass along and to ensure cohesion. The dense jungle precludes the use of flankers and the advance must necessarily be very slow.

I have seldom seen lustier looking porters than these Naga coolies. They are all furnished with Dahs for use in the jungle. They carry loads by means of a band round the head.

Kobo is now a vast perimeter camp, with some four thousand troops and followers inside. The health, in spite of the wet and discomfort prevailing, is good.

The details of the Mishmi expedition are being arranged here.

Some Abor tribesmen have arrived with protestations of ignorance of any knowledge of the murder of Mr. Williamson and of Mr. Gregorson.

The rise of the river has wrought havoc with the landing stages recently made here.

The Assam Light Horse Volunteers are settling down in camp.

UNPRECEDENTED FLOODS.

The rain, it raineth every day. The mighty Brahmaputra, swollen with rain from up-country, is tearing past, carrying down in its course flotsam and jetsam from the Dihang and Lalli rivers; pine logs stript of their bark from the latter and a continuous stream of driftwood present a wonderful picture of power and movement. Logs of timber come crashing against the sides of the steamers and lighters at anchor, and derelict dug-outs torn from their moorings afford an opportunity of some excellent target practice, ranging and traversing on the part of the volunteer machine gun detachment.

The river has risen some five feet during the night, and has flooded the whole of the foreshore of the camp. Some unfortunate persons were marooned and eventually rescued by boats. Owing to the excellent camp arrangements and the sandy soil, the water quickly drained off. An hour or two, however, of sunshine would be most welcome.

In view of the successful concentration under many difficulties to a force of five thousand troops and followers in Kobo, the delay owing to the fury of the river and the protracted rains is distinctly trying, but everybody is working cheerfully. The camp resounds with the grunts and clanging of the Naga coolies and the shouts of the sepoys hard at work. Two foot-bridges over the Kemi river some six miles distant on the Ledum Road have been washed away, and the sappers and miners are now working there.

13th October.

It is steadily pouring with rain and the encroachments of the swollen river give rise to the fear that the whole camp may become flooded. The ceaseless procession of timber and wreckage goes on.

Thanks to the care and attention bestowed on sanitation by all concerned, the health of the camp, in spite of the very adverse conditions prevailing, is quite satisfactory. Every effort is being made to prepare for the advance. Troops and carriers are being practised in the procedure to be adopted in case of attack. Selected Nagas are to act as scouts during the advance, and the five carrier corps, each under the charge of a British officer, are now allotted to their respective duties. In view of the paralysing effect of the torrential rain and flood on any necessary preparations for the forward movement, it would appear regrettable that the concentration of the force could not have taken place later. The rainfall is known to be enormous and in the Assam Valley, floods always formed one of the chief obstacles to the Mohammedan invaders. Now in this camp,

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the veriest fire-eater must exercise himself in patience, for he cannot get on. Telegraphic communication with Dibrugarh has broken down. The postal service owing to the floods is irregular.

14th October.

The river has fallen a foot, and it is hoped that this may point to the cessation of rain in the hills.

The mail left yesterday in a "dug-out." Telegraphic communication with Dibrugarh has not yet been resumed.

The sappers and miners have recently been practising with two small short bomb guns, made in imitation, though after an improved pattern, of those used by the Japanese in Port Arthur. Fired at an angle of forty-five degrees they can propel a five pound charge of dynamite about 250 yards. The explosion is terrific and they should prove effective in attacks on stockades.

In view of the subsequent fall of the river it has been considered advisable to open the road from here to Poba Mukh, to make a landing place for supplies at that place. The distance is about six miles south-west of Kobo and already two miles of it have been cleared.

(To be continued.)

1812 IN THE PENINSULA.

JULY.

(*Continued from page 86*).

THE BATTLE OF SALAMANCA.

Lord Wellington, his passage over the river Tormes secured, now ordered the Salamanca forts, which had been so troublesome, to be destroyed, and followed Marshal Marmont in his retreat to the river Douro, where on the 2nd July the French rearguard was fired at while crossing the river by the bridge of Tordesillas. Once again only the lack of sufficient numbers of the Allies saved the French from disaster, for some were killed and some were made prisoners in the confusion.

Marmont now took up a position on the north bank of the Douro, holding indeed a widely extended position which was safer than appeared to be the case because he commanded every passage over the river, while the Allies in their turn occupied the south bank, the 3rd Division reaching the ford of Pollos on the evening of the 3rd July. For some days nothing of importance occurred; British officers were busy seeking a favourable spot on the river for crossing, and Marmont, having nothing to fear from the security of his position, awaited reinforcements which were on the way to him and took the opportunity of increasing the strength of his cavalry by dismounting his infantry officers, obtaining 700 horses in this way. [1]

At the ford of Pollos, indeed, it was almost hard to realise that the soldiers of these two armies were engaged in a serious campaign which might at any time lead to a battle entailing disaster to either side. The river Douro, at times a broad sheet of water, was at this season but a comparatively insignificant stream and before long the soldiers of the two armies were on amicable terms. How the difficulties of language were got over history does not relate, but it is a fact that the soldiers quickly fraternised in a remarkable way. Wood-cutting parties from the British 3rd Division were allowed by the French 7th Division to cross to their side to fetch it, the soldiers of both armies bathed daily together and there was even an exchange of rations such as rum and biscuit. But while these peaceful amenities existed [2] between the soldiers of the respective armies Lord Wellington was in dire straits for want of money, the pay of officers and men being many months in arrears; he had, in fact, never been in such distress and warned the Government at home that some misfortune must happen unless steps were taken to keep the army regularly supplied with money. [3] Nor was the question of money the only difficulty for a British expedition, originally destined to create a diversion on the east coast of Spain, had been directed to Italy [4] thus leaving the French troops on the east coast free to reinforce Marshal Marmont, and the French troops immediately opposed to Lord Wellington. But misfortunes never come singly, and the news of the advance of King Joseph's army of the centre together with the other circumstances turned the Allied commander's thoughts from giving battle to Marmont to securing his own retreat into Portugal. The first step in this new phase of the campaign was taken by Marmont who was eager to fight a battle before King Joseph's arrival deprived him of the chief command. The happy conditions prevailing at the ford of Pollos were rudely interrupted, the officers bade each other farewell, the French in parting saying "We have met and have been for some time friends, we are about to separate and may meet as enemies. As 'friends' we received each other warmly, as 'enemies' we shall do the same;" [5] these divisions did, indeed, meet again a few days later on the field of Salamanca where the British 3rd destroyed the French 7th Division.

Marmont's first step on the 15th and 16th July took the form of a concentration on his right threatening the Allied left a movement to which Lord Wellington conformed on the 16th; but his left had been turned and the Allied communications were in danger. [6] Having caused his opponent to close his troops to his left, Marmont retraced his steps on the 17th, crossed the Douro higher up and concentrated on the evening of the 17th on the British right, some of his divisions having marched above forty miles and some above fifty miles without a halt. [7]

Into the movements of the respective armies during the next few days it is not proposed to enter. They were, as Sir Herbert Maxwell has said, of that description which is the glory of the tactician but the despair of the historian. But fascinating as is the story of those few days a detailed description would be out of place in a simple tale such as this, and in any case the various movements could only be followed with the aid of a map.

By his concentration against the Allied right Marmont placed the 4th and Light Divisions in grave danger on the 18th July from which they were withdrawn by Lord Wellington himself, who was on one occasion mixed up in one of the numerous cavalry combats of the day. [8] These divisions were, however, safely extricated and the retreat began, surely as strange a retreat as is recorded in military history; the two armies moved in parallel lines "only half a musket shot from each other, the officers on each side pointing forward with their swords or touching their caps and waving their hands in courtesy." [9] In this way the two armies, keeping perfect order, moved for ten miles the movement becoming really a race as to who should cross the river Guarena first; a race won by the British column though their success was saluted by forty French guns on the heights above the river. Foiled for a moment Marmont, on the 20th July, made another movement round the British right and by a rapid march gained a position similar to that which he had occupied on the 18th July but on a greater scale; the armies on parallel lines, within musket shot, the officers paying their military courtesies, the guns on both sides exchanging salutations as opportunity offered. [10] But on this occasion the Allies were outflanked and outmanœuvred. Both armies were now approaching the Tormes in the neighbourhood of Salamanca, the French, after a long and tiring day, actually commanding the ford of Huerta. Lord Wellington, having ordered the bivouac fires to be lit, moved his army after dark with great speed to a position of greater security while a portion of his force seized the heights

1 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
2 Grattan. Adventures with the Connaught Rangers.
3 Despatches.
4 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
5 Grattan. Adventures with the Connaught Rangers.
6 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
7 Napier.
8 Kincaid. Adventures of the Rifle Brigade.
9 Napier.
10 Napier.

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of San Christoval, formerly occupied by the force covering the siege of the Salamanca forts. The result of this day's operations was entirely to the advantage of the French and their position was threatening to the security of the Allies' line of retreat to Ciudad Rodrigo. This advantage they followed up on the 21st July, crossing the Tormes by the ford of Huerta in the afternoon and moving by their left continued to threaten the Allied line of retreat.[11] Once again the Allies conformed to the movements of the enemy, and in the evening crossed the Tormes by the bridge of Salamanca and the neighbouring fords with the whole force with the exception of the 3rd Division and some cavalry who were left in position on the heights of San Christoval[12] with orders to entrench themselves in case Marmont should once more retrace his steps, yet in readiness to join the main body if required. Both armies were now, with the exception mentioned above and a French division left to hold the ford of Huerta, within the curious loop made by the Tormes to the east of Salamanca, and which, on the morrow, was to be the scene of some of the hardest fighting in this hard-fought war. While the French reached their bivouac before darkness fell the British troops were still in movement when night and a terrific storm overtook them. Torrents of rain fell, the thunder and lightning were unceasing and both armies were quickly wet to the skin, while hundreds of frightened horses breaking loose from their picquet ropes galloped wildly over the field adding not a little to the confusion.[13] With the 3rd Division in its lonely vigil on San Christoval things were no better, the earth had been thrown up and the works were palisaded when the storm burst upon them about 10 p.m. filling the trenches completely with water and stopping all work, and in these miserable conditions did the two armies pass the night before the battle.

Early on the 22nd July Marmont renewed his activity calling in the division he had left to hold the ford of Huerta, and thrusting forward some troops who seized one of two hills called the Arapiles on the British right though they were repulsed in an attempt to seize the other hill. Though Marmont's plans were not yet disclosed it was obvious that the battle would be fought within the loop of the river, and Lord Wellington early in the day[15] called in the 3rd Division now reinforced by the 1st Battalion 5th Regiment, which, after embarking at Cork in May, had landed at Lisbon, and advancing by forced marches joined the army about the 20th July in front of Salamanca and took the right of the Brigade of the 3rd Division comprising, 2nd Battalion 5th Foot and the 83rd and 94th Regiments.[16] The two Battalions of the Regiment were thus present at the battle of Salamanca, sharing alike its glories and its losses.

Though the 3rd Division was called in early in the day, crossing the river by the fords nearest to their position and the Salamanca bridge, it was 1 p.m.[17] before it reached the position allotted to it in a wood near Aldea Tejada, completely hidden from view of the French and in a position to secure the road to Ciudad Rodrigo along which the commissariat and the baggage had already been despatched. By this movement, according to Napier, the British position was reversed, the left became the right and *vice versa*, and the front became the rear, and from facing north the British line now faced roughly south. Marmont, now hastily bringing up his army under cover of the Arapiles hill which he had seized, being to the south-east. It was indeed a strange position for Lord Wellington was now facing towards his line of retreat, the road to Ciudad Rodrigo, and the fighting which ensued, except where it concerned the 3rd Division, was much involved.

The morning passed in anxious suspense, and while Marmont was hastening the march of his troops Lord Wellington, intending to resume his retreat when darkness fell,[18] held on to his strong position hoping that the French might attack him. But now the French general in his eagerness to throw himself across the Allies' lines of retreat along the Ciudad Rodrigo road over-reached himself and committed a tactical blunder which brought upon him complete disaster. He conceived the idea that by extending his left wing along a ridge towards this road he would block the Allies' line of retreat and at the same time attack his left with the divisions now arriving on the scene. The ground in this loop of the river Tormes was broken up into different ranges of hills and the position occupied by the rival armies was roughly two miles from flank to flank and about a mile in depth; the nature of the ground afforded every concealment for troops and rendered their location a matter of great difficulty and it was in this country that Marmont now moved his left wing, the 7th Division. Lord Wellington was snatching a hasty meal[19] when the news of the French movement was brought to him and, mounting his horse, he ascended some high ground and observed for some time the march of the 7th Division which took it further and further from its centre; then he issued a few orders, the British attitude of defence changed, the men stood to their arms, colours were uncased, bayonets fixed, the order "to prime and load" passed along and in a few minutes after Marmont's false movement was discovered the British army was ready to attack.[20] Lord Wellington meanwhile galloped to the 3rd Division on his right rear which, hidden completely from the French, was commanded by his brother-in-law, Sir Edward Pakenham, General Picton being sick. The 3rd Division had but just resumed their arms when at the head of his staff he appeared among them; the officers had not taken their places in the column but were standing in a group together in front of it. As Lord Wellington rode up every eye was turned upon him; he looked paler than usual but in spite of the sudden change he had just made in his dispositions he was quite unruffled and calm. His words were few and his orders brief.[21] "Ned" said he, pointing to the French columns moving along the heights "d'ye see those fellows on the hill? Throw your Division into column; at them! Drive them to the devil."[22] Then galloping back to his position on the English hill of the Arapiles and leaving instructions that he was to be awakened when the enemy reached a certain spot, he lay down in his cloak on the heath and went to sleep.

His own line of battle was ready indeed but the French left wing was still some two miles from its objective, a ridge in front of the 3rd Division. Between 3 and 4 p.m. the French attack was within striking distance, the Allied commander was roused and ordered the advance of two Divisions on his left while a Portuguese Brigade attacked the French Arapiles. This attack brought home to Marmont the rashness of his outflanking movement, and, though the 3rd Division were still hidden from his view, he sent urgent orders to his 7th Division to return to its former position; but it was too late.

When all was ready Pakenham with the 3rd Division counting 12 Battalions and two brigades (12 guns) and flanked by cavalry moved forward against the 7th French Division. The 45th, 74th and 88th composed the first line; 9th and 21st Portuguese the second line, while two Battalions of the 5th, 77th, 83rd and 94th were in reserve. The Division was hardly in motion to seize the very ridge which was also the objective of the French 7th Division, before it was crowned with 20 French guns which opened a destructive fire, their balls passing through the ranks and ploughing the ground in every direction; but veterans such as the 3rd Division were not to be shaken even by such a fire as this.[23] The first line advanced in open column until within 250 yards of the ridge which by this time was occupied by 5,000 French Infantry, whose front

11 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
12 Grattan. Adventures with the Connaught Rangers.
13 Napier.
14 Grattan.
15 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
16 Cannon's Historical Records.
17 Grattan.
18 Maxwell.
19 Maxwell.
20 Grattan.
21 Grattan.
22 Maxwell.
23 Grattan.

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was covered by clouds of skirmishers whose bearing was in great contrast with the steady calm advance of the 3rd Division. Frantic with excitement the French skirmishers rushed down the face of the ridge hoping to take advantage of the time which the deployment of the British troops from column to line would take, a hope which was extinguished when Pakenham ordered the leading Brigade to form line from open column *without halting* ; the different companies threw forward their right shoulders and formed line without the slow manœuvre of a deployment.

As the first line pressed forward its centre, suffering severely from the heavy fire, made slower progress than the flanks and the line assumed a crescent-like formation ; it was a bold as well as a novel manœuvre, and the appearance of the Brigade was imposing and unique because, as it happened, all the British officers were in front of their men, [24] who with their firelocks "on the rest" followed close upon the heels of their officers. As they reached the brow of the hill a torrent of bullets tore through the ranks bringing down nearly all the front rank and half the officers ; the Brigade reeled from the shock but recovering, pressed forward again their firm bearing now spreading panic in the French ranks. In vain do the French officers encourage their men by all the means in their power ; the British troops, exasperated by their losses, cry out to be led forward ; Pakenham calls out "to let them loose" and under the onslaught of 1,500 British soldiers fighting two-deep the French masses crumble and fall in pieces.

Wearied by its exertions in the intolerable heat and parched with thirst the 3rd Division continued to follow up the retreating French but failed to overtake them; a fresh French Division appeared on the scene and assumed the offensive together with some squadrons of light cavalry who fell upon the right flank of the 3rd Division, but the 1st Battalion 5th Foot, throwing back three companies at right angles and allowing the enemy's cavalry to approach so close that every shot would tell, opened such a destructive fire that the enemy were repulsed and fled in disorder.

It was now the crisis of the fight on the French left. To the din and uproar of the fight was added the rolling smoke from the musketry and guns, and the dry grass which had been set on fire ; the light soil stirred up by the passage of men and horses was blown by a breeze which sprang up [25] in the face of the new French Division, in such thick clouds that unable to see and scarcely able to breathe, they opened fire at random.

Through this hell the 3rd Division pressed forward on the flank of the French while the 5th Division advanced on their front when in the interval between the two Divisions was suddenly filled with "a whirling cloud of dust" ; the order to "open right and left" is given in the 3rd Division, the line opens, Le Marchant's British Cavalry Brigade pass through the intervals and forming quickly in front of the infantry, fall on the French Division. [26] Already in some disorder from their hasty march the enemy try to form square but before the evolution can be completed the storm bursts on them and the British cavalry carrying all before them sweeps away every formation. Through three bodies of French infantry the cavalry cut their way while the enemy now completely broken and demoralised seek refuge from these terrible horsemen in the ranks of the 3rd Division.

The French left no longer existed as an organised body but while victory shone on the bayonets of the 3rd Division the issue remained doubtful elsewhere on the battlefield. General Clausel who had succeeded to the command of the French Army in place of Marshal Marmont who had been wounded when riding to the succour of the 7th Division, continually reinforced by troops arriving on the scene fought hard to retrieve the day on his right near the village of Arapiles. Pack's Portuguese ascending the French Arapiles hill had been assailed by the French reserves and rolled down the hill which was covered with dead and wounded Portuguese ; following up their success the enemy charged up a ridge against the 4th Division whom they handled roughly and who met with further misfortunes at the hands of some French cavalry. The 5th Division too had given way before the French onslaught and Clausel's counterstroke bade fair to restore the fight ; but victory again declared for the commander who could throw in the stronger reserve. [27] Lord Wellington who seemed to be wherever his presence was required, brought up the 6th Division and slowly but surely the scale was turned against the French who were still outflanked by the 3rd Division, and Clausel, skillfully covering his retreat with two Divisions, fell back towards the forest from which the French had emerged followed hard by Wellington at the head of Light, 1st and part of 4th Division and followed by 7th Division and some Spaniards. For three miles in the gathering darkness the French retired by alternate wings till they reached the forest into which after a fight with some of 6th Division they vanished.

Still the pursuit continued in the moonlight. There were only two points of crossing over the Tormes in rear of the French ; one the Castle of Alba de Tormes covered the passage of that name and was occupied by a Spanish garrison and towards the other Lord Wellington with a strong force was marching. A crowning disaster to the French arms appeared certain, but during the course of the day the Spanish commander had withdrawn the garrison from the Castle of Alba de Tormes without informing Lord Wellington and the retreating French found a free passage.

The 3rd Division after their exertions bivouacked on the field they had won, remaining in deep slumber till 2 a.m. when mules carrying rum aroused them. Though the parties sent out in search of water had not returned the soldiers "with parched lips, their tongues cleaving to their mouths from thirst, limbs benumbed with cold, bodies enfeebled with hunger and exertion, ran to the casks and each drank a fearful quantity." [28]

As was to be expected this afforded but a temporary relief and a burning thirst followed this reckless draught ; once again the inhabitants of Salamanca came to the rescue of the 3rd Division as on the heights of San Christoval and sent out carts with provisions, fruit and water, which reached the battlefield before morning. Next day the pursuit continued fully sixty miles east of the battlefield, further captures of prisoners being made, notably by the heavy dragoons of the King's German Legion who charging three French battalions in squares, broke the squares, and took the whole of them prisoners.

The spoils of this great victory included 11 guns and 7,000 prisoners, including a General and 136 officers of inferior rank while the French lost in addition some 6,000 killed and wounded, among whom were no less than seven general officers.

On the side of the Allies the price paid was 41 officers and 658 men killed, and 253 officers and 4,273 men wounded, including 5 general officers.

The share which the two Battalions of the 5th Foot played in this action is shown by their list of casualties which comprised 11 men killed, and 8 officers and 131 men wounded ; by authority, the word "SALAMANCA" is borne on the colours and Lieutenant-Colonel Pratt of 1st Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel King of 2nd Battalion (who succeeded to the temporary command of the Brigade during the day), and Captain Bishop, 2nd Battalion (on whom the temporary command of 2nd Battalion devolved) obtained medals.

(To be continued).

24 Ibid.
25 Napier.
26 Napier.
27 Maxwell.
28 Grattan.

NORTH COUNTRY YARN.

NIGHT OR MORNING?

A workman was returning from work one evening last summer. On entering a rather quiet street not far from Chester Road, Sunderland, a man who evidently had been drinking, and had been asleep, shouted from an upstairs window :—"What time is't, mate?" "Six o'clock," was the reply. "Six o'clock!" the questioner hesitated slightly ; then he shouted, "Is't neet or mornin'?"

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER FOR THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo fata vocant."

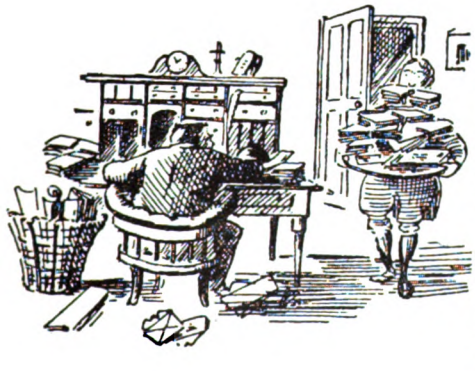
No. 356.] Saturday, 31st August, 1912. [Vol. XXX.

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
The Editor's Corner	99	4th Battalion Notes...	106
Our Contemporaries	99	5th Battalion Notes...	107
Subscriptions Received	99	6th Battalion Notes...	107
Births	99	7th Battalion Notes...	107
Extracts from *The London Gazette*	99	Letters to the Editor	108
1st Battalion Notes	100	Another Nigger's Letter	108
2nd Battalion Notes	102	Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day	108
2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes	105	The Abor Expedition (*to be continued*)	108
2nd Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes	105	1812 in the Peninsula (*to be continued*)	109
Depôt Notes	106	Soldier Anecdote	110
		Advertisements i. to viii. and Cover	

THE EDITOR'S CORNER.

26, HANS CRESCENT,
LONDON, S.W.,
31st August, 1912.



***Subscriptions to** "ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE" are as follows:—Officers (past and present) and their friends, 9d. per copy, post free 10d., or 10/- per annum, post free all over the world; Non-Commissioned Officers and men (past and present) and their friends, 2d. per copy, post free 3d.; or 3/- per annum, post free all over the world.*

***Subscriptions** should be sent to the Editor; they will be duly notified in the next number of the paper after the remittances have been received.*

***Subscriptions** are due in advance; in the event of a subscription not being paid when due, a bill will be sent (this, however, will not be done in the case of Officers serving with their Battalions, their subscriptions being paid by the Mess President yearly); should a subscription not be paid within two months in the case of a subscriber at home, or three months in the case of a subscriber abroad, after such bill is sent out, it will be assumed that no more copies of the paper are wanted. The name will then be taken off the books.*

It is particularly requested that all contributions intended for insertion be sent so as to reach the Editor NOT LATER than the 25th of each month, in order to allow of punctual publication, and that contributions be written on ONE SIDE only of the paper.

Subscribers changing their addresses, Officers proceeding on leave, and Non-Commissioned Officers and Men proceeding on furlough, or leaving the Regiment, should send their addresses to the Editor.

All communications to be sent direct to the Editor.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following papers:—

"The Army Service Corps Journal"
"Military Mail"
"The Queen's Own Gazette"
"The Globe and Laurel"
"The Green Howards' Gazette"
"The Naval and Military Record"
"The XXX."
"The R.M.A. Magazine"
"The Aldershot News"
"The Antelope"
"The Tiger and the Rose"
"The Black Horse Gazette"
"The Hampshire Regimental Journal"
"The Eagle"
"The Lion and the Rose"
"The Snapper"
"The Regiment"
"The 79th News"
"The Essex Regiment Gazette"
"The Argyllshire Highlanders Regimental News"
"The London Scottish Gazette"
"The Household Brigade Magazine"
"H.L.I. Chronicle"
"The Sapper"
"The Journal of the Royal Artillery"
"The China Dragon"
"The XI. Hussar Journal"
"The 6th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers' Magazine"
"The Suffolk Regimental Gazette"
"The Green Tiger"
"The Acorn"
"The White Lancer"
"The Ranger"
"The Leinsters' Magazine"
"The Dragon"
"The Lillywhites Gazette"
"The Thin Red Line"

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions and payments for *Gazettes* from:—

P.M.C., 2nd Battalion	to 31/12/12	P.R.I., 1st Battalion,	
P.M.C., 1st Battalion	,, 31/12/12	May Sales of *Gazette*	
Captain M. Lloyd...	,, 31/12/12	Mr. J. Dalzell. May Advertisements	
Captain Archer ...	,, 30/ 6/13	Mrs. Bigge, 2 *Gazettes*	
Mr. S. C. Bishop ...	,, 31/ 7/13	P.R.I., 2nd Battalion	
Depôt *Gazettes*, May		O.C., Longmoor Detachment	

BIRTHS.

HAYNES.—On the 17th ult., at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the wife of No. 4906 Colour-Sergeant J. Haynes, 3rd Battalion, of a daughter.

SMITH.—On the 26th May, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the wife of No. 3891 Drummer A. D. Smith, 3rd Battalion, of a son.

WHITE.—On the 26th ult., at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the wife of No. 5279 Colour-Sergeant J. R. White, 3rd Battalion, of a daughter.

WILLIAMS.—On the 1st inst., at Fleetwood, Lancashire, the wife of Captain E. E. Williams, 2nd Battalion, of a son.

EXTRACTS FROM *The London Gazette*:—

Colonel (temporary Brigadier-General) P. S. Wilkinson, Inspector-General, West African Frontier Force, to be Major-General.

3RD BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Second-Lieutenant (on probation) C. W. C. Shipley is confirmed in his rank.

6TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain A. B. Gracie from the Northern Cyclist Battalion to be Captain (dated 15th May, 1912); Lieutenant A. D. S. Rogers from 8th Battalion Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment) to be Captain (dated 1st June, 1912); Lieutenant J. Hervey resigns his commission (dated 27th July, 1912).

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1st Battalion Notes.

MHOW, INDIA,
1st August, 1912.

I HAVE been urged to make a resolute effort to avoid an everlasting topic and not to mention the weather. But this is quite impossible, as I am going to urge it as an excuse for the brevity of these notes.

The monsoon has at last broken and we really have had a lot of rain, with the result that Polo has been stopped, probably till about the end of September. Cricket matches are uncertain and only two things seem to be certain, one that if you venture off the roads you will be bogged, the other that your garden will be overgrown with weeds.

We played our first Cricket match on the 13th July against the Central India Agency Office and won comfortably. Lieutenant Ovans was top scorer with 47, and Bandsman Parrant took most of the wickets. On the 20th we played against the Staff and Indian Army and won easily by an innings and 22 runs.

"*The Long 'Un.*"

There have been two meetings of the Mhow Gun Club. At the first Lieutenant-Colonel Sapte secured first place in the Sweepstake. At the second, although penalized five yards, the same competitor won the Sweepstake the second time.

The Rugby Football Cup has been played for this month, though the ground at first was not as soft as it might have been. In the final C Company beat H Company after a close game by one try to *nil*. This is for 1911, and it will be played for again later in the year for 1912.

A few enthusiasts have been playing Golf, though after a shower of rain the course gets very heavy and one seems to carry most of it about.

Captain Gatehouse has returned from leave in Kashmir. He seems to have had some very good Golf at Gulmarg, but shooting and fishing we hear have been poor up there this year.

We are looking forward to a lecture on Palestine given by the Bishop of Nagpur to-night in the Regimental Theatre. It is to be illustrated by lantern slides.

Major Yatman proceeds home by this mail on three months' leave.

No. 8622 Sergeant L. Gillborn and No. 7143 Private S. D. Field re-engaged at Mhow for the Northumberland Fusiliers to complete 21 years' service.

No. 1447 Drummer A. Sheffield and No. 764 Drummer F. Addams have extended their service to complete 12 years with the Colours.

No. 7900 Sergeant J. C. Gypson and No. 5674 Sergeant T. Sanderson have been promoted Staff-Sergeants on the Indian Unattached List.

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No. 9280 Lance-Corporal C. Vandepeer has been appointed paid Lance-Corporal, from the 10th ult.

The undernamed have been appointed unpaid Lance-Corporals from the 1st ult.:—

No. 9920	Drummer	J. Quinn	No. 2562	Pte.	F. Poole
„ 1743	Pte.	S. Hobson	„ 2631	„	C. Croft
„ 2517	„	J. Lamb	„ 2502	„	H. Sheridan
„ 2114	„	M. King	„ 2640	„	W. McDonald
„ 2559	„	J. Dowson	„ 2677	„	T. Colby
„ 2476	„	L. Oliver	„ 2899	„	F. Upson
„ 2905	„	J. Hamilton	„ 2860	„	C. Atkinson
„ 2618	„	W. Berrington	„ 2195	„	G. Kirkwood
„ 2371	„	G. Saxby	„ 2614	„	D. Quinn

The undernamed have been appointed Drummers from dates stated:—

No. 1447	Private	A. Sheffield	from 9/7/12
„ 764	„	F. Addams	„ 10/7/12

No. 933 Private T. Maden and No. 475 Private A. E. Slingsby have been awarded Certificates in Supply Duties.

No. 6937 Drummer E. Woodward has been awarded a 2nd Class Certificate of Education, dated Newcastle-on-Tyne, 1/10/1902.

No. 2582 Boy G. Young has been awarded a 2nd Class Certificate of Education, dated Mount Abu, the 7th ult.

The undernamed have been awarded School Certificates as stated, dated the 25th ult.:—

2nd Class:—

No. 9280	L.-Cpl.	C. Vandepeer	No. 2332	Pte.	C. Pateman
„ 2618	„	W. Berrington	„ 2630	„	C. Simmons
„ 8765	Drmr.	F. Williams	„ 2091	„	H. Frazer
„ 2803	Pte.	G. Younger	„ 196	„	M. King
„ 2336	„	J. Bowtell	„ 2395	„	F. Barnes

3rd Class:—

No. 9565	Pte.	J. Daley	No. 2361	Pte.	C. Bowtell
„ 953	„	J. Osborne	„ 1827	„	D. Flanagan
„ 2493	„	G. Lawler	„ 2505	„	A. Shinn
„ 2733	„	F. Thomas	„ 2624	„	W. Taylor
„ 2767	„	J. Ellitson	„ 2804	„	A. Smith
„ 1405	„	C. Chambers	„ 2702	„	W. Smith
„ 2535	„	W. Munday	„ 947	„	J. Bradley

Good Conduct Badges have been awarded as under:—

No. 1360	Private	E. Smith	2	from	20/6/10
„ 2623	„	J. Griffiths	1	„	16/6/11
„ 2636	„	L. Brown	1	„	28/6/11
„ 933	„	R. Pilkington	2	„	6/1/12
„ 881	„	J. Egan	2	„	28/3/12
„ 2801	„	J. Brown	1	„	6/4/12
„ 2005	Bandsman	H. Gibbs	2	„	14/4/12
„ 1630	Private	P. Shields	2	„	24/4/12
„ 2624	„	W. Taylor	1	„	3/5/12
„ 917	„	J. Tandy	2	„	15/5/12
„ 2824	„	J. Kinney	1	„	25/5/12
„ 6937	Drummer	E. Woodward	3	„	12/6/12
„ 2548	Private	T. Smith	1	„	21/6/12
„ 1140	„	A. Baldry	2	„	24/6/12
„ 1711	„	G. Mould	2	„	29/6/12
„ 2831	„	J. Buchan	1	„	1/7/12
„ 2344	„	E. Pugh	1	„	2/7/12
„ 2774	„	J. Piggott	1	„	2/7/12
„ 2835	„	F. Wright	1	„	4/7/12
„ 1600	„	F. Gatehouse	2	„	5/7/12
„ 910	„	H. Rogers	2	„	6/7/12
„ 2748	„	J. Paradise	1	„	12/7/12

The undernamed have been awarded the Coronation Durbar Medal, 1911:—

No. 5225	Band-Sgt.	R. F. Ball	No. 1524 Pte. C. Green
„ 649	Corpl.	W. Lewis	„ 769 „ F. Morris
„ 867	Pte.	E. Challis	„ 1404 „ H. Hill
			No. 1042 Pte. J. Hills

CRICKET.

5TH FUSILIERS v. CENTRAL INDIA AGENCY OFFICE.

FIFTH FUSILIERS.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Mr. H. L. Ovans, lbw, b Francis	43	c H. Dracott, b Joshi	17
„ W. Platt, c Wood, b H. Dracott	10	c H. Dracott ...	16
Captain W. Clifford, c F. Dracott, b Francis	0	st Belcher, b Francis ...	18
Mr. L. A. Barratt, b Uttam ...	24	c and b H. Dracott	1
Captain W. N. Herbert, b Joshi	10	not out	9
Major C. Yatman, st Belcher, b Francis	4	did not bat	
Bandsman Parrant, c F. Dracott, b Uttam	1		
Corporal Wadsworth, b Uttam ...	9		
Mr. C. T. S. Cogan, b H. Dracott	6		
„ R. M. R. Lamb, not out ...	3		
Private Rix, st Belcher, b Joshi...	5		
Extras...	10	Extras ...	8
Total	125	Total ...	*69

*Innings declared closed.

CENTRAL INDIA AGENCY OFFICE.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Mr. F. Dracott, st Platt, b Rix ...	0	c Yatman, b Rix...	7
„ D. G. MacKenzie, c and b Parrant	10	c and b Parrant ...	50
„ E. B. Belcher, c Ovans, b Rix	12	c Clifford, b Rix ...	0
„ J. B. Wood, c Parrant, b Rix	8	c Parrant, b Rix...	0
„ H. Dracott, c Barrett, b Clifford	20	not out	29
Uttam-Narain, c Yatman, b Parrant	4	not out	4
Ram-Narain, b Parrant	1	c and b Clifford ...	9
Minocher, c Rix, b Parrant ...	0	did not bat	
Kishen-Lal, c Rix, b Parrant ...	0		
Francis, b Parrant	2		
Joshi, not out	5		
Extras	1	Extras ...	2
Total	63	Total ...	101

5TH FUSILIERS v. STAFF AND INDIAN ARMY.

FIFTH FUSILIERS.

Mr. H. L. Ovans, c Slater, b Ricketts	3
„ W. Platt, b Murray	23
Captain W. Clifford, c and b Slater	17
Major C. Yatman, c Clery, b Slater	32
Bandsman Parrant, c and b Slater	16
Captain W. N. Herbert, b Slater	0
Mr. R. M. R. Lamb, c Ricketts, b Slater ...	0
Colour-Sergeant Wilkinson, not out	32
Captain E. B. Gordon, c Garret, b Fellowes ...	14
Mr. C. T. S. Cogan, c Blomfield, b Fellowes ...	3
Private Rix, c Minchin, b Fellowes	0
Extras	5
Total	145

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STAFF AND INDIAN ARMY.

	1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Mr. Slater, c Wilkinson, b Parrant	7	c Yatman, b Parrant ...	16
„ Garrett, b Parrant	15	b Rix	4
„ H. C. L. Minchin, c and b Parrant	0	not out	5
Major-General C. J. Blomfield, c Wilkinson, b Rix	0	c Cogan, b Rix ...	10
Mr. H. G. A. Fellowes, c Yatman, b Rix	6	run out	2
Mr. St. J. Wright, c Herbert, b Parrant	18	b Cogan	2
„ H. M. Wilson, b Parrant ...	2	b Cogan	2
Captain F. S. Murray, c Parrant, b Rix	1	c Ovans, b Clifford	1
Major T. W. Rudd, c Wilkinson, b Parrant	0	st Platt, b Rix ...	1
Major C. B. L. Clery, not out ...	0	b Clifford	13
Mr. E. L. Ricketts, lbw, b Parrant	0	b Cogan	8
Extras	6	Extras ...	4
Total	55	Total ...	68

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

On the 3rd inst. we visited the Sergeants' Mess of the 14th Hussars in acceptance of an invitation to play them at cards and billiards. A goodly number of us mustered at 8.30 p m. and a procession of gharries conveyed us to the scene of contest full of hope and confidence. But, alas, it was short-lived. Though we managed to hold our own at euchre, at bridge and billiards our opponents simply mopped the floor with us. Sergeant Truscott managed to win his game at the latter and there we finished.

On the 11th inst. we hoped to retrieve our reputation at a shoot, but again we failed. The teams were sixteen a side, Bisley marking at 200, 500 and 600 yards. We totalled 1,253 against our opponents' 1,307. "Fred" wishes it to be known that he made the top score on our side with 90.

Our Whist Drive and Dance, which seems to grow more popular with each, took place on the 17th. There were nearly 150 players and the prizes all went to visitors. Unfortunately the weather did not permit of our Tennis "at home" on the 22nd, but if it is propitious we intend holding it on the 26th.

2nd Battalion Notes.

HILLSBOROUGH BARRACKS, SHEFFIELD,
25th August, 1912.

OUR experience of Welsh weather this summer has been decidedly unpleasant. We had a pretty muddy time of it during manœuvres in Berkshire in 1909, and a still muddier the following year in the west country, but in neither of these camps did we get so thoroughly and continuously soaked through as we did during the last two weeks of our stay at Devil's Bridge Camp, Cardiganshire. During the first four weeks of July there was nothing at all to "grouse" at. For a few days, indeed, the extreme heat put us in mind of the memorable summer of 1911. Then the wind changed to the west, and for the remaining fortnight the clouds continued to bear up the Rheidol Valley and empty themselves on our devoted camp without any break or sunny interval. The result of all this was that we lived the lives of mud-fish without any of the natural qualities which keep the lower forms of life cheerful in their accustomed slime, and, in short, it is unanimously resolved that the "land of our fathers" is no land for us.

The Brigade Sports followed the same lines as last year, that is to say the four regiments competed against each other in bayonet fighting, tug-of-war, shooting and cross country running, each regiment being represented, in the case of the first three, by its best company. At bayonet fighting we defeated the three other regiments, F Company being our representative company with a team consisting of Sergeants Johnson and Moody, Lance-Corporal Clay, Drummer Langtry, Privates Taylor, Smith and McKay. In the tug-of-war we were represented by E Company who produced, with three exceptions, the same team that carried all before it last year. Its members were Lieutenants Foster and Molyneux, Colour-Sergeant Pearce, Lance-Corporal Raison, Drummer Squibb, Privates Ellingham, O'Connor, Duff, Hamilton and Hunnam. This time, however, our opponents were decidedly a more formidable lot, and we lost to the 14th (West Yorkshire Regiment) and 80th (South Staffordshire Regiment), beating only the 15th (East Yorkshire Regiment). The first two of these were strenuous pulls. In the cross country race, which was over a long course up and down mountainous slopes, we were last, and here we were all disappointed, even though a second or third place would have made no difference in the relative position in the four competing regiments at the end. In the shooting match we came out first, with the 14th, 80th and 15th following us in that order. This was a curious reversal of last year's results. E Company again represented the Battalion and deserve congratulations on the result. The points obtained were as follows:—

1st	14th (West Yorkshire Regiment)	200 points.
2nd	5th Fusiliers	140 „
3rd	80th (South Staffordshire Regiment)	100 „
4th	18th (East Yorkshire Regiment)	40 „

Thus we secured two cups, which, with those won last summer, make a total of six out of a possible ten; and while congratulating the winners of the Brigade Cup we may legitimately remember that strength and weight were both valuable assets in favour of an older lot of men, and particularly in the two events in which we were defeated. The khud-runners, nevertheless, must do better next time. On the final day of the Sports the opportunity was taken to hold sheep dog trials, in which some seven or eight of the local shepherds took part. Those who were familiar with the thing, whether in Cumberland or elsewhere, seemed to think the exhibition only moderate. There was a deal of

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waving and whistling and shouting on the part of the Welsh competitors, but only one dog succeeded in bringing in his sheep from the pen some 300 yards away to the appointed spot. For all that it was very interesting to watch them working on the hillsides under ordinary conditions, as, for instance, when the ground was to be cleared before field firing, and regret was heard expressed that the company commander could not manœuvre his company over the mountains in the same comfortable way.

In addition to the Sports the four regiments also competed in a Brigade Boxing Tournament in which we carried off most of the honours. Private Clarkburn won the open middleweights competition, Private Riley the novice's middleweight and Private Falcus the open lightweight, the runner up in this last being Lance-Corporal Geradine, all FIFTH men.

A team of officers consisting of Majors Ainslie, Turner and Shoubridge, and Lieutenants Nicholls, Rushbrooke and Molyneux played the Borth Golf Club one day and halved the singles and won the doubles match. Another team defeated the South Staffordshire Regiment at lawn tennis by five matches to three, our representatives being Colonel Enderby, Major Ainslie, and Lieutenants Fletcher, Trench, Molyneux and Williams.

The following is the result of the Inter-Company 110 Stone Tug-of-War Competition held after the finish of the Brigade Sports:—

E Company	beat	B	Company	
D	"	" A	"	
B	"	" F	"	
D	"	" C	"	
G	"	" C	"	
H	"	" A	"	
D	"	" H	"	
G	"	" H	"	

By two pulls to none in each case.

E Coy. scratched to H Coy.

The Inter-Company Cricket Cup Competition is not yet finished. In the first round D Company beat A Company, F Company beat H Company, E Company beat B Company, and G Company beat C Company. The semi-final round ended in the defeat of D Company by E Company. F and G Companies have now to play each other, the winner of them meeting E Company in the final.

We were very pleased to welcome an old 1st Battalion officer in the person of Captain Clifford Browne who came to see us in our camp. He joined the Regiment in the year 1853.

Congratulations to Major-General Wilkinson on his promotion. We may yet—who knows?—find ourselves in his Brigade and shall consider ourselves lucky if we do. Congratulations also to Major Shoubridge on his appointment as General Staff Officer 2nd Grade to the West Lancashire Territorial Division.

General Plumer, General-Officer-Commanding-in-Chief the Northern Command, arrived to supervise the last few days of Brigade Training. The North Midland Territorial Division were encamped around Aberystwyth during this period, and on Saturday, the 10th inst., we were led out under Brigadier-General Congreve to battle against them. The second line acquitted themselves right manfully and despite very heavy losses drove the Brigade from the position it had taken up. The bugle blew the last "no parade" and we all returned to camp to prepare for the return to our permanent stations on the following Monday. Thus the Battalion, less two officers and one sergeant, left behind with the "Terriers" for signalling classification, found itself once more at Sheffield and Pontefract by the evening of the 12th inst., A, B, D and H Companies repairing to Headquarters, E, F and G Companies to Pontefract.

I must not forget to mention the July hunt in which several of us, on horse-back, pony-back or foot, took part. The Gogerddan hounds—master, Sir Edward Pryce—met close by towards the end of that month and killed a fine cub after a twenty minutes run. As a reward for our exertions (and night operations had kept us out till 3 a.m. that morning) we were allowed to carry off mask, brush and three pads. Probably few of those who were out will repeat the experience of killing an English, or rather, British fox in July.

General's Inspection took place on the 16th of this month. Since then we have enjoyed a time of comparative rest, and several of us have seized the opportunity to go northwards and have a go at the grouse.

The Northern Command Rifle Meeting was held at Strensall from the 20th to the 23rd inst., and the Battalion was well represented. Each Company, except the one at Fleetwood, sent a team to compete, and the general result was very satisfactory in consideration of the absence of any range near Sheffield or Pontefract on which to practice. The machine gun section won the machine gun competition with a wide margin to spare. Names:—Lance-Sergeant Poole, Corporal Capstaff, Lance-Corporals Fitzgerald and Crawford, and Privates Coulston, Duff, Ironside, Lowden, Walker, Jewsbury, Batty, Davis, Sims and Potter.

E Company won the Tile Shooting Competition, though they were somewhat lucky in the disqualification of the Scots Greys who beat them in the final.

B Company was 3rd in the Northern Command Cup, and Companies of the FIFTH took 2nd and 3rd places in the Rundle Challenge Cup.

The Regimental team came out 3rd in the Strensall Challenge Cup.

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In the individual squadded competitions there were no firsts, but several non-commissioned officers and men were well up the prize list.

Captain Jones was 2nd in the Officers' Revolver Competition.

The weather conditions were very bad throughout the meeting, and good shooting was often well nigh impossible.

The following have left the Service during the month:—

No. 6935 Bandsman C. DRUMMOND.—Enlisted, 30/8/00; discharged, 29/8/12; service, 12 years; served in 2nd and 3rd Battalions.

No. 6933 Private P. JONES.—Enlisted, 30/8/00; discharged, 29/8/12; service, 12 years; served in 2nd and 3rd Battalions.

The following Appointments have been made:—

To be Bandsman:—

No. 8652 Private H. Elders from 16/7/12
„ 3352 Boy F. Leaper „ 26/7/12

No. 3420 Private W. Richardson transferred to the 2nd Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers on the 15th inst.

No. 1860 Lance-Sergeant J. Brown transferred on probation to the Army Gymnastic Staff, from the 20th inst.

The following have been awarded 3rd Class Certificates of Education, dated Sheffield, the 30th ult.:—

No. 3378 Pte. J. Hamilton		No. 3412 Pte R. Bland	
„ 3428 „ F. Monaghan		„ 3427 „ F. Newbury	
„ 3411 „ J. Whitfield		„ 3320 „ W. Allan	
„ 3381 „ A. Scott		„ 3396 „ A. Clowrey	
„ 3138 „ J. Rosenthal		„ 3446 Boy F. Cook	

CRICKET.

A COMPANY v. D COMPANY.

This match was played at the Woodlands, Devil's Bridge, on the 24th ult., and resulted in a tie.

A COMPANY.

	1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Sgt. Avery, b Roe...	1	b Roe	2	
Lance-Cpl. Boniface, b Simmons	6	not out	1	
Sgt. Brown, b Roe	4	c Mason, b Simmons	0	
„ Slater, b Simmons	6	b Roe	6	
„ Hiorns, b Roe	1	b Simmons ...	1	
Pte. Hughes, b Roe	0	c and b Roe ...	3	
Colour-Sgt. Hollett, not out ...	15	c Fossey, b Simmons	2	
Pte. Spong, c Price, b Simmons	1	b Simmons ...	2	
„ Berry, c and b George ...	15	b Roe	0	
„ Johnson	0	b Roe	1	
„ Payne, b Roe...	4	c Simmons, b Roe	0	
Extras...	7	Extras ...	1	
Total	60	Total ...	19	

D COMPANY.

	1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Pte. Roe, lbw, b Hiorns	18	b Brown	2	
„ Mason, c Hiorns, b Brown...	1	run out	1	
„ Fowler, run out	0	b Hiorns	1	
„ Simmons, c Avery, b Brown	0	b Brown	0	
„ George, b Hiorns	0	c Hiorns, b Brown	0	
„ Clarke, run out	3	b Hiorns	3	
Pte. Price, c Slater, b Hughes ...	0	b Brown	4	
„ Wellgreen, b Hiorns... ...	6	b Hiorns	1	
„ Parsons, not out	3	b Hiorns	7	
„ Fossey, run out	8	c and b Brown ...	0	
„ Walker, c Boniface, b Brown	4	not out	7	
Extras	5	Extras ...	5	
Total	48	Total ...	31	

A COMPANY v. D COMPANY.

This match was played at Devil's Bridge on the 25th ult., and resulted in a win for D Company by 50 runs.

A COMPANY.

	1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Sgt. Avery, lbw, b Simmons ...	0	b Simmons ...	4	
Lance.-Cpl. Boniface, c Price, b Simmons	1	b Simmons ...	4	
Sgt. Brown, c Clarke, b Roe ...	0	c and b George ...	0	
„ Hiorns, c Mason, b Simmons	9	b George	2	
„ Hollett, b Simmons... ...	3	not out	1	
Pte. Berry, b George	5	b Simmons ...	0	
Sgt. Slater, b George	8	b Simmons ...	8	
Pte. Hann, c Palister, b Simmons	3	b Simmons ...	5	
„ Webb, c Price, b Simmons...	0	b George	5	
„ Fraser, not out	0	b Simmons ...	0	
„ Spong, b George	0	b Simmons ...	2	
Extras..	5	Extras ...	1	
Total	34	Total ...	32	

D COMPANY.

	1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Pte. Simmons, lbw, b Hiorns ...	0	c Avery, b Hann	0	
„ Clarke, b Hann	15	b Brown	0	
„ Roe, c Brown, b Hiorns ...	12	b Hann	2	
„ Mason, c Fraser, b Hollett...	4	c Berry, b Hann...	0	
„ George, c Slater, b Brown ...	3	b Boniface ...	24	
„ Palister, b Hollett	0	b Hann	0	
„ Fowler, c and b Brown ...	12	run out	0	
„ Price, c Brown, b Hiorns ...	1	not out	6	
„ Wellgreen, c Brown, b Hiorns	4	b Brown	10	
„ Parsons, not out	6	b Brown	0	
„ Beaumont, b Brown... ...	0	c Webb, b Brown	2	
Extras...	4	Extras ...	11	
Total	61	Total ...	55	

H COMPANY v. F COMPANY.

This match resulted in a win for F Company by 7 wickets.

H COMPANY.

	1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Pte. Gollop, b Clay	0	c Palmer, b Langtry	6	
„ Blakemore, b Clay	13	played on... ...	38	
Sgt. Mitcheson, b Clay	3	b Clay	0	
„ Redhead, b Clay	0	b Langtry ...	3	
Pte. Camamile, c Langtry, b Farrell	3	not out	8	
„ Richardson, b Reynclds ...	7	b Farrell	6	
„ Norman, st Brown, b Langtry	2	c Reynolds, b Clay	4	
„ Litchfield, b Clay	3	c Wilson, b Clay ...	0	
„ Hobbs, not out	5	b Langtry ...	0	
„ Bellamy, b Clay	4	b Langtry ...	4	
Cpl. Vale, b Farrell	0	b Farrell	1	
Extras	11	Extras ...	4	
Total ...	51	Total ...	74	

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The new fat regiments come from home, imaginin' vain V.C.'s
(The same as our talky-fighty men which are often Number Threes)*
But our words o' command are "Scatter and Close" and "Let your wounded lie."
We used to rescue 'em noble once,
Givin' the range as we raised 'em once,
Gettin' 'em killed as we saved 'em once,
But now we are M.I.

**Horse holders when in action, and therefore generally under cover.*

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F COMPANY.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Pte. J. Reynolds, b Richardson...	2	did not bat	
„ C. Reynolds, c Redhead, b Bellamy	1	not out	18
„ Langtry, b Bellamy ...	1		
„ Willson, b Richardson ...	0	did not bat	
„ Clay, b Bellamy	2		
„ Taylor, b Bellamy	10	b Richardson ...	6
„ Brown, c Camamile ...	32	b Gollop	13
Cpl. Herbert, b Gollop	8	b Blakemore ...	4
Boy Farrell, b Richardson ...	13		
Pte. Daykin, b Blakemore ...	8	did not bat	
„ Palmer, not out	1		
Extras	8	Extras ...	2
Total	86	Total (3 wkts.)	43

2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes.

THE BARRACKS, PONTEFRACT,
23rd August, 1912.

AFTER an absence of six weeks in Wales, the Detachment arrived back here on the night of the 12th. We were all quite glad to have the opportunity of getting dry clothes again after the last fortnight of incessant rain.

The new Detachment under Major Turner consists of E, F and G Companies, the Drums and Signallers, the two latter having been here all the time since the arrival of the Battalion at Sheffield.

About 35 men from the Detachment have been away this week at the Northern Command Rifle Meeting. The Meeting is still in progress, but up to the time of writing the Regiment has won the Machine Gun Competition. A and E Companies secured 2nd and 3rd places respectively in the Rundle Cup, whilst B Company was 3rd in the Northern Command Cup.

We are experiencing the same sort of cold and wet weather as the rest of England, and it is hard to believe that we are still in August as on most days a fire is quite welcome.

Members of our last Detachment will learn with great regret of the death of Major Briscoe, late the York and Lancaster Regiment, which occurred last month after a few days illness. He lived within a stone's throw of the Barracks and was always most kind and hospitable to the Regiment, whilst the children of our Detachment will remember his kindness at the last Christmas Tree. We take this opportunity of offering our deep sympathy to Mrs. Briscoe in her great loss.

We feel that most of the news of the last month will appear in our 2nd Battalion Notes as the Regiment has been together in Wales, so we will refrain from repeating it here.

2nd Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes.

THE HUTMENTS, FLEETWOOD,
24th August, 1912.

DURING the month the Company Rifle Meeting was held, and on the following days the Classification Practices Table "B" were fired.

The Depôt the Manchester Regiment very kindly marked for us during the Company Rifle Meeting. The prize winners with their scores I give below.

For the Classification Practices the Depôts the Cheshire Regiment and the South Lancashire Regiment provided the markers and officers. The remainder of the officers being found by the Manchester Regiment and the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. Captain B. Evans, South Lancashire Regiment (late 1st Battalion 5th Fusiliers) was the superintending officer at the firing point on one of the days.

The Company Shot is No. 8700 Private F. Wagg, with a score of 143. The same man scored 42 in the Rapid Practice.

The following are the results of the Company Rifle Meeting, which was fired in very bad weather:—

C Company (Captain E. E. Williams, D.S.O).

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS.

SNAPSHOOTING 200YDS (2nd class figure target).

CLASS I.

1—	Corporal Smith	19
2	Colour-Sergeant Jenkins	17
2	Lance-Sergeant Pawsey...	17
2	Private Wagg	17

CLASS II.

1—	Lance-Corporal Hawdin	18
2	„ Page	17
2	„ Lockhart	17
2	Private Edmunds	17

RAPID, 300YDS. (10 rounds; 40 seconds).

CLASS I.

1—	Lance-Sergeant Pawsey...	31
2—	Colour-Sergeant Jenkins	29

CLASS II.

1—	Lance-Corporal Lockhart	32
2—	„ Warren	30
3—	„ Davison	29

SLOW 400YDS.

CLASS I.

1—	Private Wardle	20
2—	„ Wagg	16

CLASS II.

1—	Private Igo	17
2—	Lance-Corporal Lockhart	15
3—	Private Langford...	14

RAPID 500YDS. (10 rounds; 30 seconds).

CLASS I.

1—	Lance-Sergeant Pawsey...	29
2—	Corporal Smith	18

CLASS II.

1—	Lance-Corporal Henry	28
2—	Private Carr	25
3—	„ Henderson...	25

SLOW 600YDS.

CLASS I.

1—	Colour-Sergeant Jenkins	15
2—	Lance-Sergeant Pawsey...	14

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CLASS II.

1—Lance-Corporal Blyth	16
2—Private Routh	15
3— „ Morris	15

COMPANY AGGREGATE.

CLASS I.

1—Lance-Sergeant Pawsey...	98
2—Colour-Sergeant Jenkins	89

CLASS II.

1—Lance-Corporal Lockhart	98
2—Private Edmunds	84
3—Lance-Corporal Blyth	83

TEAM COMPETITIONS.

FIGURE 3, 200YDS. (three exposures of 20 seconds each).

1—No. 3 Squad (Corporal Smith)	51
2— „ 1 „ (Lance-Corporal Blyth) ...	35

SNAPSHOOTING, 300YDS. (Figure 3).

1—No. 6 Squad (Lance-Corporal Davison)	14
2— „ 1 „ („ Blyth) ...	11

RAPID, 500YDS. (Double from 600yds ; time allowed, 1 minute).

1—No. 6 Squad (Lance-Corporal Davison)	58
2— „ 2 „ (Corporal Smith)	57

TILE SHOOTING COMPETITION.

1—No. 4 Squad (Lance-Corporal Howett)
2— „ 6 „ („ Davison)

Depôt Notes.

THE BARRACKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
23rd August, 1912.

PROFOUND apologies are due to the Editor from the Depôt correspondent for the absence of any Depôt Notes for July.

His excuses are that we were all in camp at Moorlaws, that the paper, owing to the weather, was too wet to write upon, and that the sudden illness of the Adjutant had so wrought upon his feelings that he was unable to collect his thoughts.

We congratulate Mr. Thornton on his speedy recovery from chicken pox. It was indeed hard luck to be hustled out of camp at a moment's notice so near the end of the training.

We had a very pleasant time in camp in spite of the wet weather, thanks to the great kindness of all the country-side during the eight weeks of Recruits Musketry and Annual Training. We understand that some officers have returned to Newcastle with reputations greatly enhanced by their success in local tennis tournaments.

Captain Wreford-Brown leaves us to take up his duties as Instructor at the Royal Military College. We shall miss him greatly, and wish him all good luck.

Mr. Gibson has been temporarily attached to 1st Infantry Brigade Territorial Force at Flamborough as Brigade Signalling Officer.

During the Annual Training the 3rd Battalion was inspected by Lieutenant-General Sir Herbert Plummer, General Officer Commanding, in command Northern Command, and Colonel Watson, Commanding No. 5 District.

Whitley Bay Rifle Range is at last to be closed. We trust that there will be no right-of-way for perambulators across the new range at Ponteland. At any rate lobster pots cannot be put down just behind the butts.

4th Battalion Notes.

HEXHAM,
19th August, 1912.

OUR teams had a phenomenal run of success at the County Rifle Meeting at Morpeth on the 16th and 17th inst. Three competitions were open to teams from this Battalion, the Lambton Trophy for individual shooting, the Earl Grey Shield for Rapid Shooting and the Co-Operative Union Cup for tile shooting, and the results were :—

Lambton Trophy.—A Company (Hexham), 1st; B Company (Bellingham), 2nd.

Earl Grey Shield.—C Company (Haydon Bridge), 1st; A Company (Hexham) tied for 2nd.

Co-Operative Union Cup.—G Company (Newburn), 1st; C Company (Haydon Bridge), 2nd.

In the individual events Second-Lieutenant E. C. Dixon, B Company (Bellingham), won the Recruits' Prize; Sergeant W. S. Clemitson, A Company (Hexham), won the Grand Aggregate Prize and made the highest score for the Chip-chase Cup, but under the rules of this competition was debarred as a previous winner from taking the first prize. Sergeant M. Walton, Hexham, won the Association Prize. Major Stephenson won the "Special" Prize, whilst many other of our members figured in high positions in the prize list.

Second-Lieutenants E. C. Dixon and R. S. M. Logan have passed Examination "A" for promotion to lieutenant.

Our Battalion Band rendered a programme of music in the Abbey Grounds, Hexham, yesterday, an audience well over 1000 being attracted. Bandmaster Appleby received many congratulations on the smart appearance and skilful performance of his men.

Considerable progress is being made with the new Drill Hall at Haltwhistle, and it is hoped this much-needed hall will be in readiness for the next Drill season.

Second-Lieutenant R. B. Webster has very kindly offered to provide a Challenge Cup to be shot for annually by the members of F (Haltwhistle) Company.

Sergeant-Instructor J. Montieth has been promoted Colour-Sergeant with effect from the 5th inst.

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5th Battalion Notes.

HEADQUARTERS, WALKER-ON-TYNE,
20th August, 1912.

AT the Northumberland Rifle Meeting held on the 16th and 17th inst. our Battalion was well represented by six officers and upwards of fifty non-commissioned officers and men. We have held the "Freemen of Newcastle Shield" for the last two years, and had a hard try to carry it off again, but had to be content with second place, winning £4.

F Company won £1 5s. 0d. in the "Earl Grey."

In the "Morpeth," Private G. Green won 3rd place, £2; Sergeant Smith, Sergeant Webster and Lieutenants Tweedy and Bainbridge 10s. each; Sergeant Potts, Captain Nash and Lieutenant Philips 5s. each.

In the "County," Captain Nash won 6th place and £1; Private Green, Sergeant Webster, Sergeant Smith and Lieutenant Phillips 10s. each; Sergeant Ruff, Lieutenant Bainbridge, Corporal Armstrong and Lieutenant Tweedy 5s. each.

In the "Tyro Prize," Captain Nash 10s.; Sergeants Smith and Webster, Lieutenants Tweedy and Philips 5s. each.

In the "Recruits," Private Finlayson, 6th, 10s.; Privates Aitcheson, Cooper, McKenzie, Biggerstaff, Conroy, and Lance-Corporal Douglas 5s. each.

In the "Association," Lance-Sergeant Johnston and Private Green 10s.; Lieutenants Tweedy and Bainbridge 5s. each; and Private Green 10s. in the "Grand Aggregate."

Captain T. J. Carlile, qualified in examination "C," held at Scarborough on 28th June, and also in riding. The following officers were successful in "B," held in Newcastle in May last:—Lieutenants P. Phillips, F. H. Lawson and W. C. Stobart; Second-Lieutenant D. Hill was successful in "A."

6th Battalion Notes.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
25th August, 1912.

RECRUITING for the Battalion is proceeding satisfactorily.

We sent a goodly number to compete in the Morpeth Rifle Meeting, and although we did not win any trophies, managed to capture a little of the prize money. Lieutenant Blayney had hard luck in not winning the "All Comers' Competition," considering that we have had no range to practice on this year the result is quite creditable.

The Battalion Rifle Meeting was held on the 24th inst., and proved a great success. The competition consisted of five rounds Grouping at 100yds. and eight rounds Rapid; time limit, forty-five seconds. There was 145 competitors, and considering the state of the weather we think this was a good attendance.

The Battalion Championship was won by Sergeant-Major Partington, Sergeant-Instructor Brown being second. Private Lee won the Recruits' Prize.

The Sergeants' Annual Pic-nic was held at Ovingham on the 31st inst.

Territorial Force Efficiency Medals have been awarded to Colour-Sergeant (Orderly-Room-Sergeant) Atkinson; Colour-Sergeants Byrne, Saville, Henderson; Sergeants McQuillan, Goodall; and Private Weatherstone.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

On Saturday, 27th July, a Smoking Concert was held in the Sergeants' Mess, when a testimonial was presented to one of our universally known members, Colour-Sergeant J. L. Robinson. A large number of members and civilian friends were present. It will be news to many of his old "active service" chums to learn that Colour-Sergeant Robinson has recently joined the army of Benedicts. An enjoyable programme of music, etc., added greatly to the pleasure of the function.

7th Battalion Notes.

ALNWICK,
23rd August, 1912.

A, B, and E Companies held a successful week end Camp at Moorlaws on the 17th and 18th for the purpose of field firing.

We congratulate Sergeant H. Forster, of D Company, on his winning the Chipchase Cup at the Northumberland Rifle Association Meeting held at Morpeth on the 16th and 17th.

The Lambton Challenge Cup has gone from D (Alnwick) Company to Hexham Company of the 4th Battalion.

Captain and Hon.-Major Gillespie passed in "C" subjects at Scarborough and in Equitation at Newcastle.

The Golf Cup, to be played for by the Battalions in the Brigade, fell to us this year. Lieutenant-Colonel Scott and Acting Adjutant Forster were our successful representatives.

We are glad to see Captain Archer back to work, and wish him better luck for the remainder of his term.

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Letters to the Editor.

49, Kempton Road, East Ham, E.,
6th August, 1912.

Dear Sir,—It having been suggested by many of my friends and old soldiers of the fifth that a "Fifth (Northumberland) Fusiliers Old Comrades' Association" might with advantage be formed in London, I would like the opinion of your readers on the subject.

Many of the Regimental "Old Comrades' Associations" in London are successfully carried on, each with a small subscription, being able to meet once a year, at a time most suitable, to commemorate some special event in the regiment's history, and over a dinner, or some such social gathering (paid for out of subscription), fight their battles and other more pleasing experiences over again.

To this end in view, it is suggested that a subscription of 1/6 a quarter would meet all requirements, not including travelling expenses. I have already communicated with fifty old "chums" whose addresses I know, and up to date have received many replies strongly in favour and wishing the movement may meet with success.

I will willingly undertake the duties of Hon. Secretary *pro tem.*, until a Committee be appointed from those who approve of the scheme, and would be glad if all communications on the subject would be forwarded to above address.

Begging you will kindly excuse me for encroaching so much on your space,

I am, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
J. T. Rowland,
(Late) Quartermaster-Sergeant.

3, Heathview Gardens, Roehampton, S.W.,
10th August, 1912.

Dear Mr. Editor,—I should much like to record in *St. George's Gazette* that two old friends have sent contributions to my testimonial since last I wrote you on the subject. One subscriber, who does not wish his name mentioned, has sent me 5/-, and Lieutenant A. P. Garnier, through Colonel Dyke, a cheque for £1 1s. 0d. I have written acknowledging these donations to the two friends concerned, and hope you will see your way to put this letter in *St. George's Gazette*.

Yours truly,
J. W. Malet, Major.
Late 5th Fusiliers.

The Barracks, Pontefract.
22nd August, 1912.

Dear Mr. Editor,—As one who has enjoyed reading "Forty Years' Service with the Fifth Fusiliers" and who regrets that it has now come to a close, I feel that I am only voicing the opinion of many when I say that a vote of thanks is due to the writer for his most interesting article. One cannot help envying the writer for his clear memory of all that has happened in that long period of forty years, and also admiring his great *esprit de corps* and love for the Regiment which prompted him to preserve such details which must have made his connection with and life in the Regiment doubly more interesting. Long may such *esprit de corps* exist! and let us hope that Mr. Wallace may have many followers.

Yours truly,
"Pomfret."

ANOTHER NIGGER'S LETTER.

San Juan Febeau Village,
April, 1912.

Honoured Sir,

I Campbell Henry and Applicant of good Ideas of the Firm working Scheme beg to apply for admission into a job that there is a vacant at the present in the Motor Carage of the W.I.E.M.S. of which I Sincerely promise to be ever submissive to my superiors prudent in my undertajing courageous in dangers Eligent in my employment and constant in my resolution, Dear Sir and Manager of the above Named I the applicant have full knowledge of sympathetic and ever helpful, conscience to an ambitious young man as I intend to be were you to make me an employee in your employment and you as my employer of which a soverignly respect will be due to you and Honoured Sir a lad of my type will be the worthy sucessor of the predesesor and I am determine to starte to day if its your desire to send me on and continue if my service prove Satisfactory.

I remain yours be every faithful and obedient servant or employee,
(Sgd.) Campbell Henry.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY.

EXTRACTS FROM *ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE*, AUGUST 31st, 1887.

COLCHESTER, Wednesday, August, 31st, 1887.—1st Battalion Notes.—We have had two regimental sports this month, both 13th and 68th Light Infantry having held theirs. At the latter our team won the officers' tug-of-war, the team being composed of Lieutenants Dawkins, Henry, Sitwell, Captain Armstrong, Lieutenant Casson, Captain Dashwood, Lieutenants Crofton and White. Our sports take place on the 8th prox. on the Abbey Field.

To the hardening effects of sea air and adverse tides may be attributed our victory in the officers' tug-of-war. At first sight our team appeared greatly overmatched in weight and general physique, but after a severe struggle the undeniable condition of the Fusiliers began to tell and the Light Infantry men were dragged over the line amidst the cheers of all beholders. A second pull resulted in a still easier and less harrassing success. Both teams at once adjourned to the refreshment tent and drowned all rivalry in deep libations to Bacchus and Saint George.

Depot Notes.—At the Prize Meeting of the Durham Rifle Association on 23rd and 24th inst., Sergeant Major Thomson won the first prize of £2 with a highest possible at 200yds. in No. 10 Competition.

At the Newcastle Rifle Association Meeting Colour-Sergeant Redhead won a prize of 5/- with a score of 22, five rounds, kneeling, at 200yds. Sergeant-Major Thomson also won a prize at the same meeting in the All Comers' Competition with a score of 32, seven rounds, at 200yds., kneeling.

THE ABOR EXPEDITION.

Specially written for the "Snapper," by Captain E. F. G. Poole, D.S.O., East Yorkshire Regiment. Official War Correspondent with the Column.

(By permission of the Editor of the "Snapper.")

(Continued from page 96).

II.

Koro, *17th October, 1911.*

A DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTRY.

The weather is keeping fine, the health of the troops remains good, and the previous water-logged camp is now thoroughly dry. The reconnaissance party which went in the direction of Ledum Road has not yet returned. The

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curtain of thick black clouds that obscured our view of the Himalayas has been rung up. Surveying parties are fixing conjectural positions accurately, and signalling communication is now being continued from the river.

One can gaze in the direction of the proposed advance to Pasighat. Beyond that, the information to hand is somewhat scanty. Picture yourself then for some forty odd miles from the cantonment of Dibrugarh with its hospitable community, in a clearing in the jungle on the banks of the mighty Brahmaputra. From mid-stream and looking north-west, the picture is sufficiently vivid; a thick belt of seemingly impenetrable jungle (it must be seen to be believed), and dense forest beyond, and some forty miles distant the peaks of the lofty Himalayas. Imagine between them the inner line parallel to the river, and the outer line running along the foot hills. Our eyes looked into the hills wreathed in flecky scudding clouds, for it is there that the terra incognita, the hitherto forbidden country lies. The fearless warden of the marches, Mr. Williamson, administrator and explorer, could have enlightened us, but he alas! has gone to the bourne from whence no traveller returns. The savage dwellers of the unknown land, the Abors of Mongoloid descent, disclaim all allegiance to India or Tibet. During their eighty-six years relations with the British Government they have successfully carried out the motto "Nemo me impune lacessit," for all punitive expeditions into their country have been followed by withdrawal. This cannot fail to have been attributed to weakness on our part. In other words, we may be said to have stirred up the beehive and never gone in seriously for bee-keeping. To recapitulate our policy with the Abors since 1825 would be a lengthy matter, nor would a recital of the different expeditions taken into part of their territory be instructive. Suffice it to say that the recent murder of Mr. Williamson and Dr. Gregorson and their followers brought home the necessity of breaking into this charmed country and punish the tribe for the outrage. A Military Police Post was at once established at Balek and hence the presence of the Expeditionary Force on the Banks of the Brahmaputra.

The picture I have drawn of the country to be traversed before contact with the Abors can be established will give some idea of the magnitude of the task allotted to the troops. Cutting their way step by step through the jungle, little by little, the obstacles must be surmounted. The dearth of the population of the north bank of the Brahmaputra, between Dibrugarh and Sadiya, is largely due to the raids of the Abors, and now has come the time for dealing adequately with these pests of the frontier. It is improbable that anything of historic interest will be discovered on the Expedition. Arduous bush warfare will be the order of the day in all probability. The Abor is said to be confident in his own superiority, as he considers that all these years he has defied the Indian Government. Nothing like the Temples of Tibet, the gorgeous buildings of Burma, the Temple of Heaven, the Forbidden City, or the Sacrosanct Hanlin Yung of Peking will gladden the eyes of the weary soldiers. The punishment of a turbulent tribe and the opening up of hitherto unknown country is the work ahead of the Expedition. Its composition is as follows:—The 32nd Sikh Pioneers and the 5th Ghurkas, who last saw service in the Waziristan blockade, and the 1st Company of Bengal Sappers and Miners, furnished with bridging materials and two small bomb guns. In addition there are three hundred men of the Lakhimpur Military Police, who have rendered invaluable service since April. Armed with Martini Henry rifles this battalion of Assam Military Police have taken part in previous Abor, Apa, Lanag and Mishmi expeditions and served with credit. This well equipped and well organised little force is under the command of Major-General Bower, C.B., an officer of wide experience in India, Tibet, Central Asia, China and the Sudan—an explorer as well as a soldier.

THE DANGER OF POISONED ARROWS.

18th October.

News from the reconnoitring party under Major Lindsay was received last night stating that they have reached Oniyuk, some ten miles distant in the direction of Ledum, and that they return to-night. Three rockets seen by this party were sent up from Kobo camp last night, and were greeted by a roar of delight from two thousand Naga throats, reminding one of the cheers of joyous holiday-making children at a display of fireworks.

At retreat all the troops stand to arms and occupy the alarm posts. No one is allowed outside the line of pickets at night or day unaccompanied by an escort. A mile and a half along the Pashighat road, the road along which the advance will be made, is a large open space called the Charra. Here a high platform has been made where, protected by a covering party, signallers are keeping up communication with Major Lindsay's reconnoitring party and the Sappers and Miners at work on the bridge over the Kemi, some four and a half miles from here on the Ledum road.

No mention of the composition of the expeditionary force is complete without including in it the only European unit, the small but efficient maxim gun detachment of the Assam Valley Light Horse. What some of these volunteers have given up for the purpose of coming on the expedition, is a matter of general interest and is a sufficient testimony to their military ardour. They are equipped with a beautiful weapon, "*le dernier cri*" in maxims.

It is instructive to learn of the steps to be taken to counteract the poison of the arrows. The poison is fixed on the head by a gummy substance and consists of the aconite root made into a paste. Some West African tribes use strophanthus, to counteract the effect of which, tannic acid I believe is employed, while I have met Central African tribes who not only poison their arrows with an extract of the bark of a tree, but at other times did so by working the heads into putrid flesh, thereby communicating ptomaine poison to their victims. Aconite, however, does not appear to be so rapidly malignant, and a timely prevention of the absorption, which does not begin immediately, is to be aimed at. Careful instructions have been issued as to its prevention, and all medical officers, assistant surgeons, and ward orderlies are furnished with a metal syringe and a phial of permanganate of potash to be carried at all times. Proper treatment after fifty-five minutes' absorption of the poison may result in recovery, but it may prove fatal if any further absorption takes place. The length of the time, however, depends on the freshness of the poison. Therefore, to prevent absorption, which takes some little time, the source of danger, the arrow head, must naturally be removed with as little force as possible, not by the shaft, for the shaft may come away leaving the head in the wound, but if possible by pushing the arrow through to the opposite side by the best route, direct if possible, by the removing of the head and withdrawing the shaft. The track must be rendered non-absorbable, by swabbing in freely with pure carbolic acid, and any poison left in the track should be removed by syringing with permanganate of potash.

(*To be continued.*)

1812 IN THE PENINSULA.

AUGUST.

(*Continued from page 98.*)

The pursuit of the French army beaten at Salamanca was continued by the Allies with all the speed which their transport and commissariat arrangements would allow; that this pursuit was not very strenuous is proved by the fact that the French right wing crossed the Douro on the 26th July and the left wing on the 29th July, yet Lord Wellington had a great opportunity of completing the ruin of the French army of Portugal. Not only was this army disorganised and starving, but discipline had broken down and only the severest

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measures, which involved the execution of some fifty soldiers, sufficed to restore order.[1]

In spite of the state of his army the French General conducted his retreat in such a way as to earn Lord Wellington's cordial appreciation; but while the beaten French army retired northwards, King Joseph's army of the centre, which might have afforded them some assistance which was much required, thought only of retreat south-eastwards and of the concentration of the French forces in Southern Spain.

Lord Wellington's army reached Valladolid on the 30th July, capturing guns, stores and several hundred sick and wounded Frenchmen. Here, finding that his pursuit made no impression on the French and that the separation of the French armies of Portugal and the centre was now complete, Lord Wellington changed the line of his advance and after giving his army a day's rest to enable stragglers to come up[2] turned southwards to Madrid on the 1st August.

For the next few days the roads leading to Madrid were crowded with the advancing hosts and the full tide of the British invasion swept along them. Troops, baggage, stores, camp-followers, in all some 60,000 to 70,000 men, formed an imposing and, to the inhabitants, an inspiriting sight; the weather was glorious and the march almost a triumphal procession. Grattan tells us that "at the termination of each day's march our bivouacs or the villages we occupied were crowded with Spanish girls and young men who either brought wine, lemonade or fruit; the evening was wound up by boleros and fandangos."[3]

Yet all was not well with the British troops; some of the newly-arrived regiments both from England and the Mediterranean were by no means healthy in spite of the moderate marches and the care taken in the selection of camping grounds and the attention paid to the question of rations. The official despatches from Cuellar of the date of the 4th August contain a scathing though possibly, in view of Lord Wellington's subsequent remarks on the conduct of the troops during the retreat from Burgos, a rather unjust commentary on the training of the British soldier of the day. "The truth is," writes Lord Wellington, "that neither officers or soldiers are accustomed to march. The soldiers are very irregular; and owing to their irregularities are not able to bear the labour of marching in the heat of the sun."[4] Moreover, some of the new regiments had disregarded the orders given them concerning the issue of blankets to the men before leaving the coast and seem to have joined the field army without these very necessary commodities; as a consequence they suffered from the sun in the daytime and dews at night, and the unhealthiness mentioned above no doubt arose from the disobedience of orders.

As the British Army approached the Spanish capital from the north King Joseph, with an enormous convoy of 20,000 non-combatants and 2,000 or 3,000 carriages in hopeless confusion, retired southwards; on the 11th August, the allied advanced-guard came into collision into the French rear-guard outside Madrid and suffered a temporary check, but thereafter the French retreat was continuous.

As the Allies neared the capital the roads became densely crowded by all sorts and conditions of people, all of them full of patriotism, thrusting themselves into the British ranks and marching hand-in-hand with the soldiers. Gifts of wine and fruit were offered and accepted; officers were nearly dragged from their horses by the women and some of them seem to have lost their seats, at any rate, if not their hearts.[5] On the 12th August the army entered the capital amid scenes of deep feeling, the 3rd Division going to the Convent of San Domingo near the Plaz Mayor, which was to be their quarters. As darkness fell illuminations, which continued for three nights, burst forth; huge wax candles were placed outside each balcony and night seemed to be turned into day; yet no irregularity on the part of the troops took place. Accounts had now to be settled with the French garrison of some 2,000 men which Joseph had left in the Retiro. On the 13th August, the 3rd or "Fighting Division" was paraded to storm the fort. At 8 a.m. all the ladders were in readiness and the Division defiled under the walls of the Botanic Gardens towards the breaches which the Sappers had made in the wall, and under the eyes of thousands of people of all ages and ranks who crowded the streets and house tops. The firing of the first gun which was the signal for the assault was also the signal for an universal shout from the multitude in which the soldiers joined and, as Grattan relates, for some time no word of command was audible.[6]

The leading platoons, however, had made some progress towards the fort when the French General surrendered and thenceforth the occupation of Madrid was complete. The capture of the Retiro yielded a large supply of provisions, 189 pieces of cannon, including a battering train, a large quantity of powder and ball, some clothing and 20,000 stand of arms.

Once again Lord Wellington had cause to complain of the conduct of his army. Invincible on the field of battle its conduct on the march and in garrison was sometimes not above reproach. The Supplementary Despatches contain some quaint orders at this time. Under date of the 15th August we find the following:—"The Commander of the Forces requests that the soldiers may not be allowed to walk about the streets of Madrid unless regularly dressed in their uniforms with side-arms . . . . " On the 15th August there occurs this order:—"The Commander of the Forces desires that all the officers, as well Portuguese as English, on duty in the Palace of the Retiro since yesterday at noon may be put in arrest, and their names reported for having allowed the stores in that palace to be plundered, notwithstanding the orders they received and that they and the men under their command were placed on duty there purposely to prevent the plunder."

The arrest, however, was short-lived and, the lesson being inculcated, the orders of the 16th August contained this paragraph:—"The Commander of the Forces now desires that these officers may be released from their arrest and may return to their duty."[7] While the 3rd and Light Divisions remained in Madrid, the rest of the army a few days after the occupation was moved to the Escurial to avoid the heat which is intense in Madrid at this time of year. But it is not to be supposed that by remaining in the city these two Divisions enjoyed all the luxuries of the capital. It is true that they had shelter and regular rations, but pay was many months in arrears. It was now the month of August, yet the soldiers had received pay only up to the middle of April, and the staff to the beginning of February.[8] Lord Wellington was, indeed, much embarrassed for want of money and the fact is recorded in the Supplementary Despatches. He even had reports that the sick and wounded officers at Salamanca had been obliged to sell their clothes to get money, and traces to the want of money many of the acts of plunder and disorder which occur daily.[9]

In fact the state of the army rapidly deteriorated. Officers and men who went to the rear sick or wounded suffered cruel hardships; those who stayed in Madrid tempted by the amusements of the city could only obtain money at an exorbitant premium from the money-lenders; discipline became relaxed and the troops kept in the field were gloomy and envied those in Madrid.[10]

(To be continued).

1 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
2 Grattan. Adventures with the Connaught Rangers.
3 Grattan.
4 Despatches.
5 Grattan.
6 Grattan.
7 Supplementary Despatches.
8 Maxwell.
9 Supplementary Despatches.
10 Napier.

SOLDIER ANECDOTE.

"NOTHING LIKE CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS."

"Now, remember, when you are marching," shouted the instructor, "the men who have arms must swing their right arms, and those without arms must swing both. Section, by your left, quick march!"

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER FOR THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo fata vocant."

No. 357.] Monday, 30th September, 1912. [Vol. XXX.

CONTENTS.

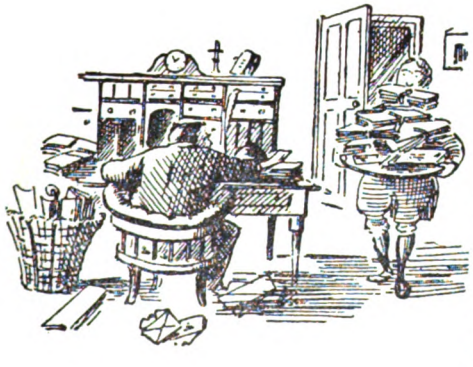
	Page		Page
The Editor's Corner	111	5th Battalion Notes...	119
Our Contemporaries	111	Editorial Notes	120
Subscriptions Received	111	Letters to the Editor	120
Birth, Betrothal, Marriage and Death	111	Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day	120
Extracts from *The London Gazette*	112	The Zakka (*to be concluded*) ...	121
1st Battalion Notes	112	The Abor Expedition (*to be continued*)	122
2nd Battalion Notes	115	A Short Account of the Military Operations on the Mekran Coast, January—April, 1910 (*to be concluded*)	123
2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes	117	1812 in the Peninsula (*to be continued*)	126
2nd Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes	119	Advertisements i. to viii. and Cover	
4th Battalion Notes...	119		

THE EDITOR'S CORNER.

26, HANS CRESCENT,

LONDON, S.W.,

30th September, 1912.



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***Subscriptions** should be sent to the Editor; they will be duly notified in the next number of the paper after the remittances have been received.*

Subscriptions are due in advance; in the event of a subscription not being paid when due, a bill will be sent (this, however, will not be done in the case of Officers serving with their Battalions, their subscriptions being paid by the Mess President yearly); should a subscription not be paid within two months in the case of a subscriber at home, or three months in the case of a subscriber abroad, after such bill is sent out, it will be assumed that no more copies of the paper are wanted. The name will then be taken off the books.

It is particularly requested that all contributions intended for insertion be sent so as to reach the Editor NOT LATER *than the 25th of each month, in order to allow of punctual publication, and that contributions be written on* ONE SIDE *only of the paper.*

Subscribers changing their addresses, Officers proceeding on leave, and Non-Commissioned Officers and Men proceeding on furlough, or leaving the Regiment, should send their addresses to the Editor.

All communications to be sent direct to the Editor.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following papers:—

"The Army Service Corps Journal"
"Military Mail"
"The Queen's Own Gazette"
"The Globe and Laurel"
"The XXX."
"The Antelope"
"The Tiger and the Rose"
"The Black Horse Gazette"
"The Hampshire Regimental [Journal"
"The Eagle"
"The Regiment"
"The London Scottish Gazette"
"The China Dragon"
"The Suffolk Regimental Gazette"
"The Green Tiger"
"The Acorn"
"The White Lancer"
"The Ranger"
"The Dragon"
"The Thin Red Line"
"The Indian Volunteer Record and Military News"
"The Sapper"
"The Aldershot News"
"The Green Howards' Gazette"
"The XI. Hussar Journal"
"The A.O.C. Gazette"
"The 79th News"
"The Dorset Regimental Journal"
"The Planters' and Commercial Gazette"
"The Snapper"
"The R.M.A. Magazine"
"The Faugh-a-Ballagh"
"The Gordonian"
"Argyllshire Highlanders Regimental News"

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions and payments for *Gazettes* from:—

Major Ferguson	to 31/12/12	P.R.I., 2nd Battalion	
Mr. P. Welsh	„ 28/ 2/13	Miss Perry—1 *Gazette*	
Mr. G. Pettigrew	„ 31/ 7/13	P.R.I., 1st Battalion	
Bandmaster A. O. Smith	„ 31/ 8/13	Depôt *Gazettes*, June	
Drummer Mudd	„ 31/ 8/13	Mr. J. Dalzell, June Advertisements	

BIRTH.

SYKES.—On the 22nd June, 1912, at Mhow, India, the wife of No. 7188 Sergeant J. Sykes, 1st Battalion, of a son.

BETROTHAL.

A marriage has been arranged and will take place in Lahore, India, in October, between John Davidson, Indian Finance Department, son of the late General Davidson, R.E., and of Mrs. Davidson, of 17, Albany Road, St. Leonards, and Lilian Mary, eldest daughter of the late Surgeon-Major-General A. M. Tippetts, A.M.S., and grand-daughter of Colonel C. Deacon, C.B., 61st Gloucester Regiment.

MARRIAGE.

STEPHEN—BARRETT.—On the 17th inst., at the Church of St. Mary and St. Cuthbert, Chester-le-Street, Humfrey Campbell Stephen, 5th Fusiliers, youngest son of the late Hon. S. A. Stephen and Mrs. Stephen, of 61, Stanhope Gardens, to Dulcibella Barrett, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rollo Barrett, of Whitehill Hall, Pelton, Durham.

DEATH.

LINDERMAN.—On the 4th inst., at Sheffield, No. 4128 Private C. Linderman, 2nd Battalion, aged 37 years.

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EXTRACTS FROM *The London Gazette*:—

NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain W. Clifford is seconded for service as Adjutant of Indian Volunteers (dated 17th August, 1912). Supernumerary-Captain R. T. K. Auld is restored to the establishment (dated 17th August, 1912).

ESTABLISHMENTS.—Royal Military College. The following Captain to be Officer of a Company of Gentlemen Cadets and to be seconded:—C. W. Wreford-Brown, Northumberland Fusiliers (dated 4th September, 1912).

5TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain T. J. Carlile to be Major (dated 1st July, 1912). J. C. Leask to be Second-Lieutenant (dated 8th July, 1912).

6TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. Ritson resigns his commission and is granted permission to retain his rank and wear the prescribed uniform (dated 15th September, 1912).

1st Battalion Notes.

MHOW, INDIA,
31st August, 1912.

SINCE writing our last notes not a great deal has happened on account of the rains, but for the last week or ten days the weather has been beautiful; cricket being the game that most of us devote our time to. We have been most unfortunate in losing several of our best players about a month ago in Major Yatman, Captain Clifford and Mr. Platt. On the 29th and 30th July a match was played against the Rajah of Dhar's team, an account of which will be found in another column.

We were all very sorry to have to say good-bye to Captain Clifford, who left here early in August to take up the Adjutancy of the Calcutta Volunteers, but we hope to see him back with us soon after we arrive home. Mr. Platt has gone to Poona again for three months as Assistant-Instructor at the Signalling School. Major Yatman proceeded home at the end of July on three months' leave. Mr. Barrett is also away on leave shooting; we hear he has struck oil.

A very keen interest is taken in the Clay Pigeon Shooting which takes place every Thursday. We had a shooting match against the 14th Hussars the other day, five a side, which ended in our favour. They insisted on the Colonel being handicapped on account of having shot so well on previous occasions.

We are losing Captain Gordon who goes home early in October to take Captain Wreford-Brown's place at the Depôt.

No. 8088 Sergeant J. Featherstone and No. 8117 Private W. Bogue have re-engaged to complete 21 years' service.

No. 8180 Sergeant J. S. Bolton (borne supernumerary on the roll of the Battalion) re-engaged at Rawal Pindi to complete 21 years' service.

No. 9420 Private H. Sykes, 1st Battalion South Lancashire Regiment, is transferred to the Battalion, with effect from the 1st ult.

No. 614 Lance-Corporal R. W. Thornton is appointed paid Lance-Corporal, from the 9th ult.

No. 7858 Sergeant G. Hills qualified in Maxim gun duties, "Distinguished," at the School of Musketry, Satara, dated the 25th June.

A further grant of Coronation Durbar Medals, 1911, have been awarded to the undernamed:—

No. 4170 Colour-Sergeant C. Wilkinson
„ 649 Corporal W. Lewis
„ 867 Private E. Challis
„ 1524 „ C. Green
„ 769 „ F. Morris
„ 1404 „ H. Hill
„ 1042 „ J. Hills

Good Conduct Badges have been awarded as under:—

No. 1947	Private	F. Smith	2	from	19/6/12
„ 2638	„	A. Muir	1	„	15/7/12
„ 646	„	E. Pickett	2	„	10/7/12
„ 2547	„	L. Whitehead	1	„	18/7/12
„ 9588	Lance-Corporal	G. Smith	2	„	21/7/12
„ 883	Private	W. Eddy	2	„	24/7/12
„ 2081	„	W. Waugh	2	„	25/7/12
„ 1069	„	C. King	2	„	27/7/12
„ 1030	Drummer	J. Stoneham	2	„	28/7/12
„ 2505	Private	A. Shinn	1	„	28/7/12
„ 2846	„	H. Harmer	1	„	3/8/12
„ 1415	„	J. Read	2	„	4/8/12
„ 9936	Drummer	R. Evans	2	„	9/8/12
„ 1129	Private	O. Cox	2	„	10/8/12
„ 2587	„	J. Fletcher	1	„	11/8/12
„ 2848	„	J. Hood	1	„	11/8/12
„ 2851	„	H. Spencer	1	„	11/8/12
„ 1598	„	J. Landy	2	„	18/8/12

BOXING TOURNAMENT.

A Boxing Tournament with three weights open to the Garrison was held on August 12th, 13th, 14th, and produced fair entries and a good standard of clean and determined boxing.

Lance-Corporal Smith won the Open Welter Weights very easily, and just secured the verdict over Private Cooper in the Regimental Middle Weights after a gruelling contest. Private Stone won the Regimental Bantam Weights easily and boxed in very good style.

Private Chickleday was unlucky to be beaten and would have put up a splendid fight with the winner. Amongst the Feather Weights, Private Forrest is a sound boxer and much improved fighter. Staff-Sergeant Thomas of the 14th Hussars would have won the Novices' Open Light Weights but retired early; of the others Private Stephenson is the best and, but for infringing one of the rules, would probably have won.

Among those defeated Private Seymour put up a fine fight against a bigger and heavier man, but boxed far below his true form in the Open Welter Weights, and

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Private Sandiland shewed good defence against a far better boxer.

Private Darling, who has a good right, made his effort too late. Private Banks also fought well in the Regimental Bantam Weights Competition.

The chief event of the Tournament, however, was a six-round contest between Private Mortimer, 5th Fusiliers, and Driver Chandler, Royal Horse Artillery, both feather-weights.

In the Coronation Durbar Tournament at Delhi last December, Private Mortimer reached the semi-final, being then beaten by Private Osborne who beat Driver Chandler in the final. Mortimer, who has not nearly come to his fullest development as a boxer, had the better style and always seemed a trifle quicker; he was well ahead on the first four rounds and though his opponent made up a little at the end the Fusilier was a comfortable winner of one of the cleanest fights one could possibly wish to see.

WELTER WEIGHTS (10st. 7lbs.)

OPEN TO THE GARRISON.

Bombardier Usher, Royal Horse Artillery, beat Private Gilroy, 5th Fusiliers.

Lance-Corporal Smith, 5th Fusiliers, beat Private Bamford, 14th Hussars.

Bombardier Usher, Royal Horse Artillery, beat Private Seymour, 5th Fusiliers.

Lance-Corporal Smith, 5th Fusiliers, beat Bombardier Usher, Royal Horse Artillery.

NOVICES' FEATHER WEIGHTS.

OPEN TO THE GARRISON.

Private Read, 5th Fusiliers, beat Private Watts, 14th Hussars.

Private Wilkie, 5th Fusiliers, beat Private Wilkinson, 5th Fusiliers.

Private Armstrong, 5th Fusiliers, beat Private Wilkinson, 5th Fusiliers.

Private Forrest, 5th Fusiliers, beat Private Harrison, 14th Hussars.

Private Forrest, 5th Fusiliers, beat Private Armstrong, 5th Fusiliers

Private Forrest, 5th Fusiliers, beat Private Wilkie, 5th Fusiliers.

NOVICES' LIGHT WEIGHTS.

OPEN TO THE GARRISON.

Private Hume, 5th Fusiliers, beat Private Saunders, 5th Fusiliers.

Staff-Sergeant Thomas, 14th Hussars, beat Private Hume, 5th Fusiliers.

Private Heasman, 5th Fusiliers, beat Private Powell, 5th Fusiliers.

Private Darling, 5th Fusiliers, beat Driver Rawlings, Royal Horse Artillery.

Private Maddison, 5th Fusiliers, beat Private Stevenson, 5th Fusiliers.

Staff-Sergeant Thomas, 14th Hussars, beat Private Heasman, 5th Fusiliers.

Private Maddison, 5th Fusiliers, beat Private Darling, 5th Fusiliers.

Private Maddison, 5th Fusiliers, beat Staff-Sergeant Thomas, 14th Hussars.

REGIMENTAL BANTAM WEIGHTS.

Private Stone beat Private Upton.

Private Stone beat Private Pridmore.

Private Johnson beat Private Pouton.

Private Chickleday beat Private Banks.

Private Johnson beat Private Chickleday.

Private Stone beat Private Johnson.

REGIMENTAL MIDDLE WEIGHTS.

Private Cooper beat Private Seymour.

Lance-Corporal Smith beat Private Sandiland.

Lance-Corporal Smith (10st. 2lbs.) beat Private Cooper (11st. 4lbs.)

SPECIAL SIX-ROUND CONTEST WITH 6oz. GLOVES.

Private Mortimer, 5th Fusiliers, winner of the Jubbulpore Tournament, beat Drummer Chandler, Royal Horse Artillery, champion of Southern India.

Referee—Captain Gatehouse, 5th Fusiliers.
Judges—Lieutenant Lush Wilson, Royal Horse Artillery, Lieutenant Selby, 5th Fusiliers.
Timekeeper—Captain Gordon, 5th Fusiliers
M.C.—Sergeant-Major Wooll, 5th Fusiliers.

CRICKET AT DHAR.

After a good deal of necessary correspondence we finally arranged to play a cricket match against the Dhar State team at that place. The Maharajah of Dhar is a very keen cricketer and spares no trouble to give the visiting eleven "as good a time" as possible. We spent three days over at Dhar and during that time we were the guests of the Maharajah. The non-commissioned officers and men started from Mhow at 11 a.m. on Sunday, the 28th July, in cantonment tongas. The baggage also started at that hour, and the appearance of the tongas sent for it gave splendid opportunities to our cricket wit to exercise his powers. However, later in the day when it was found that the fatter ponies from Mhow were only able to travel some eighteen miles and the occupants of the tongas had to walk, whereas the thinner but harder Dhar ones could travel the whole distance (thirty-three miles) without difficulty, our wit's remarks must have rebounded on his head heavily. The officers started about 5 p.m. in motors. In one, a large Daimler, there were seven people, quantities of baggage (roughly 160lbs.) and two dogs. However, the whole party arrived safely at Dhar. On arrival we were met by the Maharajah, the Prime Minister, the Minister of Public Works, Under-Secretary of State, and all the other State Officials. We arrived rather late in the evening, and so after dinner went to bed hoping for a good day's cricket the next day. Alas! our hopes were not fulfilled. The next day it rained hard and steadily. We spent our time up to 5 p.m. in the verandah of the guest-house gazing hopelessly at the rain, and most of us, I think, smoked, talked and ate too much. In the evening the Maharajah took us to see his armoury, in which, among other things, there are some very fine old swords with Toledo blades and native hilts, the old fort, and his stables. After this we rode on elephants to the Palace, where the Maharajah has some record tiger and panther skins. One of the latter measures 8ft. 11ins. Next day, in spite of the rain, which still continued, we started our game. We went in first and made 120, Colour-Sergeant Wilkinson (24), Parrant (25), and Lieutenant Cogan (26), being the top scorers. We then got the Dhar team out for 85, in spite of a very stubborn resistance on the part of a schoolboy (a man of 24) from Indore. The Rajah was bowled his second ball

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by Parrant. He himself remarked as he went out that the ball was a good deal too good for him; but one of his Staff with commendable tact was heard to say that His Highness's bat was a little too late. We then went in again, and had made 80 for 5 wickets on the drawing of stumps. Next morning we continued our innings and were eventually all out for 147 runs. Our best scores were Clifford (38), Herbert (24), and Lamb (20). The Dhar eleven had to make 182 runs. This they failed to do, and we won by 82. The Rajah was the top scorer for his side in this innings, making 24 runs. A feature of the game was the excellent bowling of Parrant. He took 6 wickets for 18 runs in the first innings and 5 wickets for a slightly larger average in the second. Another feature was the magnificent catching by Colour-Sergeant Wilkinson at point. The ground is not an easy one to score on, as there is a decided slope on one side and some thick grass on the other. Besides this there seemed to be a certain doubt about the boundary line. We had a large crowd to watch our game, and so much interest was taken in the match that it was with great difficulty that one batsman could hear the other calling for runs.

In the evening the officers returned to Mhow in motors. The men returned next day.

The kindness and hospitality of the Maharajah will be remembered by all of us. He not only placed his ponies, carriages and motors at our disposal, but also showed us what a perfect host can be.

The important post of umpire was filled by Corporal Newton on our side, and a gentleman whose name I don't know on the other side. Corporal Watson was our scorer, whereas the Prime Minister scored for Dhar.

Owing to an unfortunate mistake the detailed score cannot be sent until next month.

CRICKET.

5th Fusiliers v. Staff and Indian Army.

This match was played at Mhow on the 22nd and 23rd August, and resulted in a win for the Staff and Indian Army by 129 runs.

STAFF AND INDIAN ARMY.

	1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Brig.-Gen. A. E. Aitken, b Parrant	84	c Lamb, b Eaton	12
Capt. F. Daniell, c and b Parrant	36	c Lamb, b Eaton	6
Mr. Slater, b Parrant	0	lbw, b Parrant ...	4
Maj.-Gen. C. J. Blomfield, b Eaton	4	b Parrant... ...	8
Mr. E. L. Ricketts, c Herbert, b Rix	62	not out	26
Major C. Clery, c Parrant, b Selby	6	c Wilkinson, b Parrant ...	1
Mr. St. J. Wright, b Eaton ...	0	b Parrant... ...	2
„ E. M. Skinner, c Sandilands, b Selby	6	b Parrant... ...	0
Corporal Tucker, not out ...	1	c Rix, b Parrant...	0
Mr. S. M. Martin, b Parrant ...	2	b Eaton	16
Corporal Maude, b Parrant ...	0	c Lamb, b Parrant	4
Extras...	8	Extras ...	13
Total	209	Total ...	92

5TH FUSILIERS.

	1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Mr. R. M. R. Lamb, c Ricketts, b Slater	15	b Wright	3
Mr. H. L. Ovans, lbw, b Maude...	12	not out	7
Captain W. N. Herbert, b Slater	18	b Slater	5
Mr. G. O. Sloper, b Aitken ...	13	b Slater	2
Bandsman Parrant, b Slater ...	1	lbw, b Slater ...	0
Capt. H. R. Sandilands, b Slater	1	c Clery, b Slater...	1
Colour-Sgt. Wilkinson, b Aitken	1	c and b Slater ...	0
Captain E. B. Gordon, b Tucker	18	c Tucker, b Slater	0
Mr. B. H. Selby, not out... ...	24	c Aitken, b Wright	14
Private Rix, b Slater	11	c Aitken, b Wright	0
„ Eaton, b Maude	0	b Slater	6
Extras...	17	Extras ...	3
Total	131	Total ...	41

Parsee C.C. v. B Company.

This match was played at Indore on the 7th July, and resulted in a win for B Company by 35 runs.

B COMPANY.

Private Pursley, b Erach	21
„ Louth, c Jall, b Hormusjee	14
Colour-Sergeant Lewis, run out...	0
Lieutenant Baxter, b Erach	8
„ Selby, c Buaroocha, b Hormusjee...	23
Private Knox, c Motajee, b Erach	8
„ Kellett, b Hormusjee	1
„ Marsh, b Hormusjee	1
„ Morris, hit wkt, b Hormusjee	11
Lance-Sergeant Truscott, run out	7
Private Pike, not out	0
Extras	1
Total	95

PARSEE C.C.

F. Draycott, not out	37
Buaroocha, c Louth, b Marsh	1
Sorab, c and b Knox	1
Nades, c Marsh, b Knox	0
Hormusjee, c Lewis, b Marsh	0
Motajee, c Baxter, b Knox	3
Jall, b Kellett	12
Pustonjee, c Selby, b Kellett	0
Erach, c Baxter, b Knox	0
Hamakaka, c Pursley, b Kellett...	3
Ram Nath, c Louth, b Kellett	0
Extras	3
Total	60

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

Owing to the rains we have discontinued our Tennis "At Homes" for the present, but the usual Whist Drive and Dance took place on the 21st inst. Again it was very successful, there being twenty-nine tables. We were represented among the prizewinners on this occasion by Mrs. Ball, who won the Ladies' second—the first going to Mrs. Joyce of the Railway Establishment. Sergeant Brooks, 14th Hussars, and Sub-Conductor Wilson, Supply and Transport Corps, won the Men's first and second respectively.

Most of us some time past have been courting a premature grave by trying to solve the problems of the

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Insurance Act, not so much for our own gratification as to enable us to display our superior intellects when asked posers by our Sections. But, alas! after the following interrogation, we feel bound to confess our defeat, and gave the whole thing up as a dismal failure:—

"I am a nine years' man," said the questioner, "and a member of the 'John Bull League.' So far I have never had an entry; but, supposing I eventually got discharged with ignominy, should I get my dividends from a Business Government?"

——

We have read in some of the home papers that the London County Council are trying an experiment in one of their schools. A small room has been set apart for infants, and no attempt is made to direct the nature or duration of their lessons. Toys are provided, and when the children get tired of playing they are encouraged to interest themselves in any branch of learning they show an aptitude for. Our Mess philosopher and political economist considers the idea a brilliant conception and one pregnant with economic possibilities if introduced into the Public Services. For instance, he calculates that the money saved on Army manœuvres alone would go a long way to meet the Government's liability for Soldiers under the Insurance Act.

2nd Battalion Notes.

HILLSBOROUGH BARRACKS, SHEFFIELD,
25th September, 1912.

THE 10th of this month was devoted to the Regimental Sports, which were held on the Niagara ground as on former occasions. The previous day had seen the various heats run off. A sprinkling of guests from the neighbourhood who were present were entertained at tea, and, except for a cold wind which blew, the weather was fine and pleasant. There were twenty-six events in all. Results were as follows:—

Throwing the Cricket Ball.—1st, Private Davis; 2nd, Private Cyster; 3rd, Private Field.

150 yds. Enlisted Boys' Handicap.—1st, Boy Hardy; 2nd, Boy Wallace; 3rd, Boy Obey.

Long Jump.—1st, Corporal James; 2nd, Private Langford; 3rd, Sergeant Davis.

Half-Mile Battalion.—1st, Private Forrest; 2nd, Private McIntosh; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Leith.

Potato Race.—1st, Private Nelson; 2nd, Private Smith; 3rd, Private Lynn.

Half-Mile Battalion Relay Race (8 per Company).—1st, C Company; 2nd, B Company.

Children's Race (Boys).—1st, Tindle; 2nd, Cooper; 3rd, Thompson.

Putting the Shot.—1st, Private Hughes; 2nd, Sergeant Smallwood; 3rd, Colour-Sergeant Pearce.

440 yds. Battalion Race.—1st, Private Forrest; 2nd, Private Langford; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Leith.

Children's Race (Girls).—1st, Mabel Cooper; 2nd, Ethel Smith; 3rd, Dorothy Cooper.

High Jump.—1st, Private Hughes; 2nd, Sergeant Eltringham; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Clifford.

Three-Legged Race.—1st, Sergeant Eltringham and Corporal James; 2nd, Sergeant Draper and Lance-Corporal Leith; 3rd, Sergeant Pawsey and Private Langford.

100 yds. Flat Race.—1st, Sergeant Pawsey; 2nd, Private Hughes; 3rd, Private Forrest and Lance-Corporal Leith.

One Mile Battalion Race.—1st, Private Forrest; 2nd, Drummer Maskell; 3rd, Private Norman.

220 yds. Corporals' Race.—1st, Lance-Corporal Leith; 2nd, Lance-Corporal McGeever; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Gammon.

Sack Race.—1st, Private Hannam; 2nd, Lance-Corporal Geradine; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Leith.

Mop Tournament.—1st, Private Watts; 2nd, Private Wilson; 3rd, Private Workman; 4th, Private Clarkburn.

Two Mile Relay Race (8 per Company).—1st, C Company; 2nd, B Company.

Tilting the Bucket.—1st, Private Richardson; 2nd, Private Clarkburn; 3rd, Boy Wallace; 4th, Lance-Corporal Geradine.

220 yds. Sergeants' Race.—1st, Sergeant Pawsey; 2nd, Sergeant Draper; 3rd, Sergeant Eltringham.

Tug-of-War.—1st, D Company; 2nd, E Company.

Old Soldiers' Race (Handicap).—1st, Band-Sergeant Long; 2nd, Sergeant Smallwood; 3rd, Sergeant Eltringham.

One Mile Race (open to Troops serving in Sheffield, including Territorial Forces).—1st, Drummer Maskell; 2nd, Lance-Corporal Leith; 3rd, Private Norman.

Officers' Race.—1st, Captain Hart; 2nd, Major Ainslie; 3rd, Captain Warwick.

Obstacle Race.—1st, Private Louth; 2nd, Private Cousins; 3rd, Private Nelson; 4th, Private Allan.

Consolation Race.—1st, Lance-Corporal Hornett; 2nd, Private Watson; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Hawdin.

Stretcher Bearers' Race.—1st, Lance-Corporal Barratt and team.

From the above it will be seen that the names of Private Forrest, Lance-Corporal Leith and Sergeant Eltringham were specially prominent among the prize winners. Private Forrest succeeded, not for the first time, in carrying off the gold medal for the individual championship with three "firsts" and one "third" to his credit, while the Commanding Officer's Cup for the Battalion Championship fell to C Company. As this last involves a competition during the year between Companies in which cricket, football, hockey, marathon race, tug-of-war (110 stone), bayonet fighting, shooting and boxing each provide a possible source of points, the winning Company well deserves congratulations on its success. Mrs. Ainslie, in the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Enderby, kindly gave away the prizes.

——

The advent of the trooping season threatens, and more than threatens, once more to empty our ranks and reduce us to the condition of a skeleton unit. A batch of 100 good men and true marched away this month to the familiar strains of "Auld Lang Syne" *en route* for Mhow, and with them went Lieutenant Swaine with all good wishes for the future. Another party, as big or bigger, will follow in October, when it is likely that the press-gang will revive once more to fill up the shoemaker's shop and other institutions left empty and desolate. What an insatiable appetite for men has this old India of ours; but so it must be.

——

Captain Girdwood and Lieutenant Foster went off to the manœuvre area with eighty men to be employed on fatigue duties. This is the only share we have had, thanks

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to our isolated position as the only regular brigade in the Northern Command, in the Army manœuvres which ended a few days ago.

Another temporary departure was that of four officers and sixty men to Strensall, on the 14th inst., to fire off casuals and recruits' musketry courses. The next Indian draft being now on furlough, the present depleted state of barracks, holding at most four Companies, may easily be imagined. Three soldiers went out the other evening in a body and the sentry's excuse for turning out the guard was based on the "unusual occurrence" paragraph on his order board.

Many in and out of the Regiment will learn with regret that Sergeant Burnell has left us after twenty-two years' service. There has passed a long series of St. George's Days and other functions in by-gone years which have owed much of whatever success they attained to our late Mess-Sergeant and to Mrs. Burnell. On many a trying occasion, too, during manœuvres has the appearance of Sergeant Burnell and his stock of edibles—to say nothing of "drinkables"—been the inspiring fillip to a war-worn and jaded spirit. We sincerely hope that he will reap success and happiness in his new surroundings.

The nondescript game in the ball-alley with a tennis racquet and ball—the last in size between a squash and a tennis ball—which has hitherto been our almost sole means of exercise in Sheffield itself has given place to lawn tennis on a court which has lately been marked out on the barrack square. A brush and a roller were all the appliances found requisite to make quite a respectable surface (for the skies had done all the watering necessary) and we hope to be able to play on any fine day of the year, winter or summer. The ground is a little harder and faster than perfection would require. A smashed ball from one end strikes the lecture room, from the other the R.A.T.A. building, while the would-be player is leaping at it helplessly from below; but Sheffield is no place in which to be critical of any facilities for out-door exercise.

There is a good deal of coming and going among officers. Major Shoubridge has left us to take up the appointment mentioned in last month's notes. Captain Girdwood goes back to the 1st Battalion on absorption, and one or two others may be following him eastward before long, now that the slow wheel of promotion seems actually in motion once more. It is high time, too, for Captain Leslie's much regretted departure to be noted. He has gone to the 3rd Dragoon Guards, where we wish him every good luck. As one who has himself had at short notice to act as 2nd Battalion correspondent he will, we trust, forgive this long delayed farewell and attribute it, as indeed was the case, to too frequent changes in that exacting office. Finally we are about to say good-bye to two Special Reserve officers, Lieutenant Tollemache and Lieutenant Radcliffe, whose attachment has lasted some months, but which, so far as our wishes go, should have been very much longer.

We offer our congratulations and good wishes to Colonel Sitwell and Lieutenant Stephen on their respective marriages.

Gustave Hamel paid Sheffield a flying visit (in more senses than one) the other day, having made the distance from Buxton in just nineteen minutes. Those who saw his landing speak of it as a marvel of æronautical skill, made in a beautiful *vol plané* from what looked a great height and within a few yards of the white sheet laid out as a guiding mark.

It was mentioned in the August notes that each Company except one at Fleetwood sent a team to compete in the Northern Command Rifle Meeting. Fleetwood being in the Western Command it was therefore impossible for C Company to compete in a Northern Command meeting as they had hoped to do, and this explanation of their absence might appropriately have been added to the paragraph concerned. We hope that circumstances will not again prevent their appearance in this way.

The following have left the Service during the month:—

No. 6941 Private T. ALLEN.—Enlisted, 10/9/00; discharged, 9/10/12; service, 12 years; served in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions. Service abroad: West Indies, 84 days; South Africa, 4 years, 129 days; India, 3 years, 346 days.

No. 6939 Private W. RICHENS.—Enlisted, 7/9/00; discharged, 6/9/12; service, 12 years; served in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions. Service abroad: West Indies, 84 days; South Africa, 4 years, 129 days; India, 1 year, 328 days.

No. 9253 Sergeant J. Miln qualified to instruct in the Mekometer Range Finder, dated Hythe, the 16th ult.

No. 9512 Sergeant O. Spaxman qualified at the Rifle Course, "Distinguished," dated Hythe, the 17th ult.

The following Promotions and Appointments have been made:—

To be Sergeant:—

No. 600	Lance-Sergeant	H. Todd	from 13/8/12

To be paid Lance-Sergeants:—

No. 1264	Lance-Sergeant	A. Bosten	from 1/7/12
„ 5201	„	J. Walker	„ 21/8/12

To be Corporals:—

No. 7878	Lance-Corporal	B. Annetts	from 27/6/12
„ 2264	„	T. James	„ 11/7/12
„ 1977	„	T. Bailey	„ 13/8/12

To be paid Lance-Corporals:—

No. 2449	Lance-Corporal	W. Pantry	from 16/6/12
„ 2816	„	T. Crawford	„ 27/6/12
„ 3002	„	A. Waters	„ 11/7/12
„ 3179	„	C. Massey	„ 13/8/12
„ 3318	„	R. Burkett	„ 28/8/12
„ 3153	„	T. Raison	„ 28/8/12
„ 3070	„	D. Mothersdale	„ 28/8/12

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To be unpaid Lance-Corporals :—

No. 2491	Private A. Wardle	from 16/8/12
„ 3084	„ G. Shepherd	„ 30/8/12
„ 3362	„ J. Spaxman	„ 30/8/12

To be Bandsmen :—

No. 7884	Private J. Kirk	from 31/8/12
„ 1761	„ A. Gollop	„ 31/8/12
„ 2009	„ F. Willson	„ 16/9/12

No. 3188 Boy T. Bennett passed in Group I. for 1st Class Certificate, dated the 23rd July.

The following have enlisted during the month :—

No. 3450 Boy A. West No. 3451 Boy F. Geldart
No. 3452 Boy P. Parks

No. 650 Lance-Corporal F. Rickwood transferred on probation to Corps of Military Foot Police, dated the 18th inst.

CRICKET.

INTER-COMPANY CRICKET CUP.

G Company v. C Company.

This match was played at Devil's Bridge on the 2nd August, and resulted in a win for G Company by 51 runs.

G COMPANY.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Pte. Edgell, c Coultard, b Chadwick	2	c Carter, b Brookes	0
„ Amos, c Reddy, b Chadwick	5	c Hebbron, b Coultard	4
„ Cromack, c Coultard, b Davis	0	b Brookes ...	7
Q.M.S. Regan, lbw, b Chadwick	8	not out	16
Sgt. Smallwood, c Carter, b Davis	11	b Brookes ...	7
Pte. Ennis, run out	5	run out	16
„ Summersgill, c Hebbron, b Chadwick	0	c Lewis, b Clark...	1
„ Watson, c Mills, b Carter ...	0	c Lewis, b Clark ...	0
„ Norman, b Carter	3	b Chadwick ...	3
„ Woods, c Pilgrim, b Chadwick	2	b Clark	0
„ Spaxman, not out	0	b Clark	0
Extras	1	Extras ...	3
Total	37	Total ...	57

C COMPANY.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Pte. Reddy, c Smallwood, b Ennis	2	b Cromack ...	2
„ Mills, c Spaxman, b Ennis...	8	b Cromack ...	0
„ Lewis, b Ennis	0	b Ennis	0
Sgt. Brookes, b Ennis	1	c Regan, b Cromack	3
Pte. Davis, b Ennis	0	b Ennis	3
„ Carter, c Ennis b Cromack	0	b Ennis	0
„ Coultard, b Cromack ...	4	b Ennis	1
„ Chadwick, not out	5	b Ennis	5
„ Hebbron, lbw, b Ennis ...	1	b Cromack ...	1
„ Pilgrim, b Ennis	0	b Ennis	4
„ Clark, b Ennis	0	c Cromack, b Ennis	0
Extras	0	Extras ...	7
Total	21	Total ...	26

FOOTBALL.

Our football season opened this year on the 7th inst. with a match in the Hatchard Cup League Competition against the 5th Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment on their ground at Rotherham. As we have a number of new men in the first eleven there was considerable interest in seeing how they would shape so as to form an estimate of our prospects as a team this year. The result of this match was a great success, ending in a defeat of our opponents by six goals to one. The whole team combined excellently, the passing of the forwards being unusually good. Sergeant Todd at centre-forward was in great form and scored five of our goals, while Sergeant Hiorns and Private Farrell, outside-right and left respectively, not only fed him constantly with accurate centres, but sent in many fine shots as well on their own account. The sixth goal was scored by Private Lockey.

Our next engagement was on our own ground—now enlarged to full size—against Dinnington on the 14th of the month. This club hails from the Worksop district and is one of the strongest in the League. After a great game, in which our men quite maintained their form, we ran out winners by four goals to one. Our forwards again played really good football. Sergeant Hiorns was especially prominent at outside-right and scored one goal with a beautiful shot. Sergeant Todd scored twice and Private Lynn once from a penalty. Both he and Sergeant Draper were very safe at back, and Private Carter did a lot of hard work at half.

In both these matches our team was composed as under:—

Goal :
Lance-Corporal McGeevor
Backs :
Private Lynn Lance-Sergeant Draper
Half-backs :
Lce.-Cpl. Christie Private Cunningham Private Carter
Forwards :
Private Crann Sergeant Todd Private Lockey
Sergeant Hiorns Private Farrell

Our second team played a match in the Sheffield Junior Cup Competition on the 7th inst. against Darnall and were beaten by three goals to *nil*. Team :—

Goal :
Lance-Corporal Thompson
Backs :
Lance-Corporal George Private Price
Half-backs :
Private Lewis Private Logue Lance-Corporal Lewis
Forwards :
Private Wilson Private Gollop Private Broadley
Private Smith Private Cave

2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes.

The Barracks, Pontefract,
22nd September, 1912.

OWING to the calls made on our detachment for two Indian Drafts and a large party (under the command of Lieutenant O. B. Foster) for manœuvres, our numbers have been very small during the greater part of this month. The chief duty of the manœuvre party appears to have been loading baggage for the "Blue" Army, where they did some very good work.

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Our congratulations to F Company on winning the Kilgour Cricket Cup. Sergeant Todd, F Company, played a great innings of 47 not out, whilst for the losing side Private Broadley played two useful innings of 21 and 30 not out.

As we are so close to Doncaster we felt that the opportunity of seeing the St. Leger was not to be missed, our representatives including Major Turner, Captain Hart and Lieutenants Trench and Barkworth. We were very glad to meet there among old FIFTH officers Colonel Herbert Armstrong, Captain Nevile and Mr. Maude, all looking fit and well.

Our best congratulations to Captain Stenhouse, the Queen's Regiment (late Fifth Fusiliers), on having passed into the Staff College, also to Captain Kershaw and Lieutenant Fletcher on having qualified. We wish the two latter better luck next time.

Cubbing at the hour of 5 a.m. has been going on with the Badsworth during the last fortnight, and despite the early hour three of us have been out several times; all the meets, however, have been close at hand.

Hockey has started here and the undermentioned match has been played though neither sides were quite representative. We have some very useful players, notably Sergeant Pincher and Private Robinson, B Company, who both play very sound games.

HOCKEY.

PONTEFRACT GARRISON V. 5TH FUSILIERS' DETACHMENT.

This match resulted in a draw of two goals each, which were scored for the FIFTH by Drummer Hughes.

5TH FUSILIERS.

Goal:
Drummer Redmond
Backs:
Sergeant Pincher Private Ellingham
Half-Backs:
Lce.-Cpl. Winter Lieut. Chenevix-Trench Dmr. Squibb
Forwards:
Lce.-Cpl. Taylor Dmr. Hughes Lce.-Cpl. Lichfield
Lce.-Sergt. Bosten Lce.-Cpl. Sunderland

PONTEFRACT GARRISON.

Goal:
Drummer Leighton
Backs:
Sergeant Farr Corporal Chiddy
Half-backs:
Bugler Judge Lieut. Palmer Lce.-Cpl. Emmerson
Forwards:
Lieut. Collins Lieut. Ford Sergeant Barton
Private King Col.-Sergt. McCracken

CRICKET.

G COMPANY V. F COMPANY.

This match, the semi-final of the Kilgour Cup, was played on the Pontefract Club Ground, and resulted in a win for F Company by 10 wickets. Boy Farrell distinguished himself by making a score of 45 for the winners, whilst for the losing side Private Cromack took 5 wickets at the cost of 6 runs apiece.

G COMPANY.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Private Cromack, c Farrell, b Clay	6	b J. Reynolds ...	20
,, Taylor, b Farrell... ...	2	c Palmer, b Lynam	3
,, Amos, b Clay	4	b Lynam... ...	1
Sergeant Smallwood, b Clay ...	6	c Langtry, b Clay	3
Qrmr.-Sergt. Regan, b Clay ...	5	b Lynam	5
Private Pursey, c Clay, b Todd ...	2	b Lynam	0
,, Norman, b Clay	0	b Clay	5
Colour-Sergeant Watson, b Clay	0	not out	11
Lance-Corporal Shepherd, c Clay	3	c and b Clay ...	0
Sergeant Spaxman, b Clay ...	1	b Clay	2
Private Smickersgill, not out ...	4	b Clay	0
Extras	5	Extras ...	3
Total	38	Total ...	53

F COMPANY.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Bandsman Wickham, b Norman	0	did not bat	
Lce.-Cpl. Langtry, b Norman	0	not out	1
,, Clay, b Cromack ...	2	did not bat	
Sergeant Todd, c Regan, b Norman	5		
Corporal Herbert, c Regan, b Cromack	7	not out	4
,, Lynam, b Cromack ...	13		
Boy Farrell, c Shepherd, b Norman	45		
Bandsman J. Reynolds, b Cromack	1	did not bat	
Lance-Corporal Taylor, b Cromack	0		
Private Palmer, run out	10		
Bandsman C. Reynolds, not out	1		
Extras	7		
Total	91	Total ...	5

E COMPANY V. F COMPANY.

In the final of the above Cup F Company won by 3 wickets.

E COMPANY.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Private Crann, c and b Todd ...	3	c Forrester, b Reynolds ...	5
,, Cunningham, run out ...	22	c Lynam, b Clay	9
,, Broadley, b Clay... ...	21	not out	30
,, Mayers, b Reynolds ...	1	run out	2
Sergeant Long, b Clay	1	b Langtry ...	1
Lance-Corporal Raison, c Langtry, b Farrell	3	c Todd, b Lynam	0
Colour-Sergeant Pearce, not out	8	b Lynam	0
Corporal Raison, c Farrell, b Todd	5	c Todd, b Lynam	0
Private Elsworth, b Todd ...	0	b Lynam	0
,, Clark, b Clay	2	b Clay	10
,, Hughes, c and b Clay ...	0	b Clay	3
Extras	4	Extras ...	8
Total	70	Total ...	68

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That is what we are known as—we are the lanterns you view,
After a fight round the kopjes, lookin' for men that we knew.
Whistlin' an' callin' together, 'altin' to catch the reply:—
''Elp me! O 'elp me, Ikonas!' This way, the —— M.I.!

RUDYARD KIPLING.

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F COMPANY.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Lance-Sergeant Davis, run out...	1	c Raison, b Broadley	0
Private Forrester, c and b Broadley	0	c Elsworth, b Broadley ...	2
Private Langtry, c Crann, b Broadley	1	run out	9
Boy Farrell, b Broadley	2	c Raison, b Mayers	14
Sergeant Todd, not out	47	b Mayers... ...	13
Lance-Corporal Clay, b Broadley	5	c and b Broadley	2
Corporal Lynam, lbw, b Broadley	5	not out	4
„ Herbert, b Broadley ...	9	c Mayers, b Broadley	6
Bandsman J. Reynolds, b Crann	1	not out	0
Private Palmer, b Crann... ...	5	did not bat	
„ Taylor, b Crann	3		
Extras	7	Extras ...	7
Total	86	Total ...	57

2nd Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes.

THE HUTMENTS, FLEETWOOD,
21st September, 1912.

THE following Regimental Depôts have been with us during some part of the month:—The Lancashire Fusiliers, the East Lancashire Regiment, the Royal North Lancashire Regiment, the King's Liverpool Regiment, the Army Ordnance Corps and the Royal Field Artillery.

Early in the month Company Sports were held as opportunity offered to find out the best men to represent the Detachment at the Regimental Sports in Sheffield. Small prizes were awarded, the names of the winners and the events are given below:—

100yds.—1st, Lance-Sergeant Pawsey; 2nd, Private Langford; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Hornett.

Quarter-Mile.—1st, Lance-Corporal Hornett; 2nd, Lance-Corporal Lockhart; 3rd, Private Routh.

Half-Mile.—1st, Lance-Corporal Hornett; 2nd, Private Langford; 3rd, Private Routh.

Throwing the Cricket Ball.—1st, Lance-Sergeant Pawsey; 2nd, Lance-Corporal Warren; 3rd, Private Field.

Putting Shot.—1st, Lance-Sergeant Pawsey; 2nd, Lance-Corporal Burr.

High Jump.—1st, Private Langford; 2nd, Private Hewitt.

Long Jump.—1st, Private Langford; 2nd, Private Routh.

Quarter-Mile Relay (4 in a team).—1st, Lance-Corporal Warren's team.

One Mile Relay (4 in a team).—1st, Lance-Corporal Hornett's team.

Congratulations are due to the men of the Detachment on winning the Sports Cup. It might be of interest to many to learn that of the eight men of C Company running in the relay race teams seven of them won prizes as stated:—

Lance-Sergeant Pawsey, 1st, 100 yards; 1st, Sergeants' Race; 3rd, Three Legged Race.

Private Langford, 2nd, 440 yards; 2nd, Long Jump; 3rd, Three-Legged Race.

Private Routh, 1st, Obstacle Race.

Private Cousins, 2nd, Obstacle Race.

Lance-Corporal Hornett, 1st, Consolation Race.

Lance-Corporal Hawdin, 3rd, Consolation Race.

Lance-Corporal McGeever, 2nd, Corporals' Race.

4th Battalion Notes.

HEXHAM,
21st September, 1912

CONSIDERABLE progress is being made with the new Drill Hall at Haltwhistle, and it is hoped that this building will be ready for use before the commencement of the next Drill Season. Unfortunately no progress can be reported concerning the proposed Prudhoe Drill Hall, site difficulties having so far proved insuperable.

Lieutenant W. Robb met with a nasty accident while motor cycling between Whitfield and Alston, running into a sheep and being thrown from his machine sustaining slight concussion of the brain in addition to severe cuts and bruises. By a coincidence the good Samaritan to attend to Mr. Robb and convey him to Alston was Captain St. John, the Adjutant of the Battalion, who was motoring that way. It is remarkable that Captain St. John left home with the intention of proceeding up the North Tyne district but changed his mind and went along the South Tyne district instead. We are pleased to hear that Mr. Robb is making a good recovery.

Captain F. Robinson was attached to the 1st Battalion Hampshire Regiment during the recent Inter-Divisional Manœuvres from the 9th to the 14th inst.

Captain S. Hankin is attending a Qualifying Course at the School of Musketry, Hythe, from the 16th to the 27th insts.

5th Battalion Notes.

HEADQUARTERS, WALKER-ON-TYNE,
23rd September, 1912.

THE past month has been principally given up to efficiency drills and musketry, for all those who have not completed. We are now preparing to commence the winter work by lectures to non-commissioned officers and men next month.

Our Scouts have been receiving weekly training since

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Camp under Lieutenant Tweedy, and they have also been attending Wallsend Baths for swimming lessons; a competition is to take place this week for the best all-round swimmer.

The Signallers, under Lieutenant Bainbridge, held a successful week-end camp during the month.

Lieutenant Forrett has just returned from a three weeks' attachment to the 2nd Battalion at Sheffield.

Captain Nash is at present attending a Musketry Course at Hythe.

We welcome Second-Lieutenant J. C. Leask, who has just been gazetted to our Regiment.

Editorial Notes.

26, Hans Crescent,
London, S.W.,
25th September, 1912.

THE Editor offers his heartiest congratulations to Captain A. F. Douglas on his engagement to be married and wishes him every happiness and prosperity; congratulations in which he feels sure that all who know "Duggles" will join him.

Photographs or sketches sent to the Editor for insertion in the *Gazette* should reach him not later than 15th of the month on account of the time taken in the preparation of blocks, etc.

The Editor appealed in a recent number of the *Gazette* for certain bound volumes to enable him to complete a set of volumes of the *St. George's Gazette* from its commencement. The Editorial Office should surely contain a full set of volumes of the Regimental paper but up to the time of writing the Editor has not received a single communication with regard to his appeal, nor have any of the copies required been offered to him in any shape.

The marriage of Colonel William Sitwell, C.B., D.S.O., General Staff Officer, First Grade, 3rd (Lahore) Division, of Barmoor Castle, Northumberland, and Constance, younger daughter of Mr. Gustavus Talbot, of Marchmont House, Hemel Hempsted, took place on the 23rd inst., at the Cathedral, Bombay. The bride was given away by her brother, Lieutenant Humfrey Talbot, The King's (Liverpool Regiment). Extract from *Broad Arrow*, 30th August.

Letters to the Editor.

8, Higham Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne,
17th September, 1912.

Dear Sir,—The Executive Committee Northumberland Fusiliers Aid Society beg to acknowledge with thanks the following additional subscriptions and donations :—

	Subscriptions. £ s. d.	Donations. £ s. d.
Previously acknowledged	128 0 3	1 0 0
Officers, Depôt	3 10 3	
Colonel W. E. Sturges	1 1 0	
Total	£132 11 6	£1 0 0

Yours truly,
Jas. Thomson, Major,
Secretary, Northumberland Fusiliers Aid Society.

8, Higham Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne,
20th September, 1912.

Dear Sir,—The suggestion of your correspondent (J. T. Rowland) is I think an excellent one. The subscription suggested (1/6 per quarter) is I presume intended to cover cost of dinner, also incidental expenses. I find on reference to the annual report of the Old Comrades' Association of the 10th Regiment the subscription varies from 1/- to 2/6 per annum. In 1911 this Association paid £88 in relief to members and £43 in loans, and each member present at the annual dinner paid for the same in addition to his subscription. As the FIFTH have an Aid Society capable of dealing with all cases of distress subscriptions to the Old Comrades' Association would only be required to cover cost of printing, postage, etc. I suggest a subscription of 1/- per annum and each member attending the annual dinner to pay for the same. I am not sure whether your correspondent means to restrict the membership to ex-FIFTH men residing in London only. In fixing the rate of subscription it should be borne in mind that one of the objects of an Old Comrades' Association is to secure a large annual gathering of ex-members of the Regiment irrespective of rank.

Yours faithfully,
Jas. Thomson, Major.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY.

EXTRACTS FROM *ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE*, SEPTEMBER 30th, 1887.

Colchester, Friday, September 30th, 1887.

ON Thursday evening, the 8th inst., the cordial welcome extended to us by the 1st Battalion Durham Light Infantry on our arrival at Colchester, was acknowledged by a very festive entertainment in the Sergeants' Mess. The Warrant Officers, Staff-Sergeants and Sergeants invited their comrades of the 68th to supper and a social gathering. After supper Sergeant-Major Barlow proposed the toast of Her Majesty, which was drunk as soldiers always drink it—with deep expressions of loyalty; then, amid rousing cheers from the Fusiliers, the Sergeant-Major again rose and gave the toast of the Durham Light Infantry, whose representatives there that night he heartily welcomed and hoped they might never meet on worse terms. Sergeant-Major Liebrecht, of the 68th, replying on behalf of the guests, expressed his thanks for their kind reception, and the hope which he felt sure every Non-Commissioned Officer of the Battalion would reciprocate, that the good feeling existing between the two Regiments would continue for ever. In conclusion he gave the toast of the "Old Fifth"; and once more the room echoed with the sounds which came from hearts and strong lungs, as the toast was drunk by the sturdy "Durhams." Then followed the most interesting event of the evening—the presentation of a handsome album to the Sergeants of the 68th. On a silver

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plate on the outside cover of the album was the following inscription:—"To the Sergeants, 68th Durham Light Infantry, from the Sergeants 5th Fusiliers. Colchester, September, 1887." More songs followed, and then the party broke up, having spent a right merry evening.

2ND BATTALION NOTES.—Great excitement prevailed in the Regiment over a race on the 15th August last, at Ferozepore, between Bandsman Coveney, of "Ours," and Bandsman Baylis, of the 30th Regiment, who agreed to run a mile race for a considerable stake. Baylis had never been beaten and was considered by his friends to be champion of the Punjaub, but our "greyhound" was under a different opinion, which he very easily proved. There was a lot of betting at evens, but, when both men appeared on the mark, Coveney was at once made the favourite, and the odds increased to three to one. Both men stripped in splendid condition and were dispatched to a good start, but after traversing about fifty yards, Coveney shot to the front. Here a voice from the crowd caused quite a sensation, offering to lay 70 to 1 on Coveney: it turned out to be a Fusilier speculating all his year's hard earnings on the chance of winning one single rupee, and he flattered himself afterwards "he nearly got it on." Coveney from this point sustained his lead throughout and won in the easiest possible manner by one hundred yards. Coveney has now established a name as one of the finest runners the Regiment has ever had, as he has proved himself to be a first-class all-round runner from one hundred yards to a mile. This is the third match he has won inside nine months. I hope to record better performances of this renowned runner in the future, as no doubt before long he will prove himself the best runner in the country. When fit he scales 10 stone, and stands 5ft. 11in.

THE ZAKKA.

BY H.R.S.

I.

"NOW don't forget what I have told you, my boy. Never mind who you were at school and at Sandhurst, you'll just be the last-joined subaltern when you join. No one minds a young officer having ideas of his own, so long as he doesn't persuade himself other people want to hear them. So keep your own counsel and don't contradict your senior officers, however preposterous their statements may be. It is a maxim of the British Army that the senior officer is always right till one with more service than he comes along and tells him he is wrong."

The speaker was Colonel Raeburn, who was giving his parting advice to his son Eric, about to sail to India to join his regiment. The Colonel was typical of the old school, grey haired and erect with a fierce eye and a tender heart. It struck him to the heart to lose his son, but he strove successfully enough to conceal his emotion under the gruffness of his tone.

"Very well, father, I'll remember," replied Eric submissively. He was a slight fair boy and though nineteen years old looked more like a public school boy going back to school than an officer of H.M. Service bound to join his regiment. A week ago he had been counting the days to the date of embarkation, but now that the day had come the attractions of home appealed to him more strongly than ever before, and he felt that, but for the presence of his stern old father, he would have been gravely tempted to bolt off the ship back to his mother and sisters at home. Soon the order came "Any more for the shore?" and the Colonel had to bid farewell to his son.

"Good bye, my boy, I don't know why they send you out at this time of year, you'll have a hot time I fear. I know the Red Sea in May. Good-bye and God bless you." It was a careworn old colonel that marched down the gangway off the ship, and it was a very miserable young man that waved farewell to his father as the ship glided out and carried him out into the world.

II.

A month later Eric Raeburn was seated in the garden outside the mess of his regiment in Peshawar. He had arrived that afternoon and had been warmly received by his brother officers, to whom his arrival was the more welcome owing to the shortage of officers and the consequently heavy duties. Half the battalion being in the hills, several of the officers on leave and others married, the numbers in mess had been reduced to three others besides himself. These three were Kennedy, a junior captain, and Monteith and Craigie, two rather senior subalterns. They had dined out in the garden, as was the custom in the hot weather, and were now sitting at their ease in long chairs, smoking and talking. Mindful of his father's parting injunctions Eric had kept a guard on his tongue during dinner, but had been considerably shocked to hear Craigie not only contradict, but engage Kennedy in a heated argument, summing his superior officer up in conclusion as "an old fool." Encouraged by the generally friendly atmosphere which prevailed, Eric ventured to make enquiries about the place in which he found himself.

"This is a good station, isn't it, sir?" he asked Kennedy. Craigie and Monteith exchanged a wink, and the latter murmured "Shun!" sharply.

"The very best," replied Kennedy.

"Do these Pathans give much trouble now? I read in the papers about a year ago that they were always raiding Peshawar."

"Rather, I should think they do," said Monteith. "They come raiding about once a week."

"Once a week!"

"Well they have not been down for some weeks lately," admitted Monteith, "we gave them a bit more than they bargained for last time, I expect."

"Do you catch them sometimes then?"

"Yes, sometimes," said Monteith doubtfully.

"What do you do with them?"

"Hang 'em," said Monteith airily. "Hang 'em on the barrack square."

"Do you, by jove," said Eric excitedly. "Who does the hanging?"

"The sergeant-major," said Craigie, "or in his absence, the sergeant-master-cook. Rotten job," he added, "I wouldn't care about it myself."

"Nor would I, by jove," agreed Eric. "But isn't it very difficult to get news of when they are coming?"

"It used to be," said Monteith, "till we started our new system of intelligence."

"What's that?"

"Oh its a splendid show, Craigie here introduced it." Craigie coughed modestly.

"Oh, shut up!" said Kennedy, who had remained silent during the course of these questions and answers.

"Why, there's nothing confidential about it," protested Monteith, indignantly.

"I should like to hear what it is," said Eric eagerly.

"Craigie here, disguises himself as an Afridi and goes over the border among the wild tribesmen, attends their jirgahs and hears all their secrets."

"By jove, that must be sport," said Eric; then turning to Craigie asked "You talk Pushtu then I suppose?"

"Like English," admitted Craigie with becoming modesty. Now this was false, to call it by no harsher name. Craigie had spent four years in the country but, to his shame be it said, knew not one word of any but his mother tongue, which he spoke extremely ungrammatically. In fact it can be said that there was very little that Craigie could do in any direction but one. He excelled, however, as an amateur actor, and had had a *succès fou* in the previous year at Simla, nearly qualifying for staff employment thereby. He and Monteith, who shared his passion for the boards, were known in the regiment as the "Mummers." "You must run a great risk of being found out, what would they do to you if they collared you?" "Tie me up by the heels to a tree or bury me all but my head and throw stones and knives at me. They are great sportsmen. But there's not much fear of that. If I go among the Kuki

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Khel I say I am a Zakka Khel and if I go among the Zakka Khel I say I am an Adam Khel and so on. Besides, I have my friends among them, and they sometimes creep into cantonments through the sentries at night and bring me information." "By gad, how topping," said Eric, greatly impressed. "Oh, it's very well in its way," sighed Craigie, "but it tells on one after a bit. I feel as if a couple of months' leave would set me up now, it's a wearing sort of job."

"You may feel what you like," remarked Kennedy. "but I shouldn't advise the extra exertion of applying for leave, as you won't get it even for a thousand Kuki Khels."

"Quite so," grumbled Craigie, "that's just about the amount of sympathy one is led to expect. Fortunately for the Empire there are still some whose sense of duty is proof against all discouragement."

"What rot you do talk," said Kennedy rising. "Are you ready for bed, Raeburn, if so I'll see you over to your bungalow? Good night you fellows."

"Good night, sir," replied Craigie and Monteith in one voice and then leant back in their chairs and called for whiskey and soda.

(*To be concluded.*)

THE ABOR EXPEDITION.

Specially written for the "Snapper," by Captain E. F. G. Poole, D.S.O., East Yorkshire Regiment. Official War Correspondent with the Column.

(*By permission of the Editor of the "Snapper."*)

(*Continued from page 109*).

It is brought home to one how multifarious is the fighting the British officer may take part in. Here, Burman experience would come in useful with a dash of African methods, but not too much of the latter, for the jungle is widely different. Here, will be the long snaky column of soldiers and carriers interspersed, so familiar to many who have served in the dark Continent. Ambuscades have to be guarded against, and the eyes constantly on the look out for hostile enterprises directed upon the flanks and rear, whether at the halt or on the move. Tedious work. Campaigns in such a country are nearly always prolonged, and rarely made notable by dashing exploits; and they are exceedingly tedious and harassing to disciplined soldiers. In watching the troops coming in and out from practice in bush warfare, one sees that the necessity of everybody in such warfare being armed, has been realised, for the meekest dooly bearer is provided with a dah and all carriers are armed with a spear and carry an axe. The sword is being discarded by most officers as too cumbrous in the bush. Some trail the "puissant pike," others carry a sort of billhook, and some propose to carry rifles or shot guns. Officers in Gurkha Regiments carry kukries as well as revolvers. In view of the difficulties of transport, the individual soldier must carry much on his person and with his rations, ammunition, blankets, accoutrements, etc., it is calculated that the load will be about sixty pounds.

The normal order of march when the advance begins, will be as follows:—

(1) Scouts, Nagas and Sepoys.
(2) Advance Guards.
(3) Headquarters.
(4) Infantry.
(5) Portion of Sappers and Miners and Pioneers according to circumstances.
(6) Guns with escort.
(7) Infantry.
(8) Remainder of Sappers and Miners and Pioneers if any.
(9) Hospital.
(10) Ammunition.
(11) Signalling.
(12) Officers' baggage.
(13) Baggage of troops in order to march.
(14) Supplies.
(15) Rearguard.

19th October.

The reconnoitring party under Major Lindsay, returned last night, and the bridge over the Kemi river has been completed by the Sappers and Miners, a toilsome task. The river is slowly falling, but, owing to the recent heavy floods, it would appear that the Dihong river has taken unto itself a fresh channel and now flows into the Dihang. The Telegraphic Department, whose work in carrying telegraph wires through the dense jungle has been beyond praise, are still repairing breaks occasioned by landslips into the river, and it is hoped that telegraphic communication with Dibrugarh and along the line of advance, will shortly be resumed. Some three and a half miles of the Poba Mukh road have been cleared, and the construction of a strong minor stockade is lessening the enormous perimeter camp by half and presaging the nearness of the advance. This is being undertaken by the Sikhs, Pioneers and the Naga carriers. The nasal intonation of the Sikhs' voices, and the ringing of axes on the logs, the grunts and not unmusical chants of the Nagas are increasing. All is bustle and activity. The figures of the General and Staff Officer, Major Hutchinson, are seen everywhere. The highly efficient Supply and Transport Department are hard at work. Everyone knows that the few days preceding the advance are indescribably busy, and the Ordnance Department, whose presiding genius has yet been undefeated in his power to produce and repair anything, is satisfying the constant demands made on it. Reports are coming in, orders are being issued, the shrill whistle of the officers as the sepoys and carriers go in and out of the bush, to practice jungle warfare, is heard. A long and short blast on the whistle from those in the rear, signifies that there are cases of straggling or inability to keep up, three blasts signify that the column is closed up in the rear. The danger of any straggling in bush warfare is obvious and there must be no gaps in the column.

RECONNAISSANCE TOWARDS LEDUM.

20th October.

Yesterday's orders were fraught with interest and as a result two companies of the 2nd Gurkhas, three hundred rifles, the Lakhimpur Military Police, with one seven pounder and one maxim gun; a small party of pioneers, a medical unit, a corps of Naga carriers, and four elephants assembled in camp at 5.20 this morning, preparatory to advancing in the direction of Ledum.

The whole force, soldiers and porters, consists of some two thousand men and is commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Fisher, 2nd Gurkhas, with Mr. Scott, Indian Civil Service, as Assistant Political Officer. Before dawn one heard the sounds of departure, the rousing of sleepers and the dislodgment of tent pegs. The night has been wet and stormy, but the rising sun in its red upward course, is flecking the rain clouds with salmon tinted patches, as the force musters. Crouching Naga coolies are bidden to rise and place their loads in curious conical shaped baskets, carried by means of a band round the head. Equipped with their burden, the dark figures move obediently forward, while a detachment of Gurkhas, hitherto motionless, take up their positions amongst them as an escort.

The scouts and advance guards step nimbly forward into the dark jungle, followed by a small party of Pioneers. Then come Military Police, mostly Gurkhas, armed with Martini Henry rifles and sword bayonettes. (Since April, these men have rendered yeoman service). Now follows the hospital with bearers carrying a net-work of doolies. Ammunition comes next with signalling equipment behind.

Then comes the baggage of the troops borne by Naga carriers, with unceasing grunts. I can only liken the grunts to the first two tones in the Chinese language. Naga No. 1 emits the low tone, and Naga No. 2, the rising tone. Perhaps the hee haw of the patient ass might express it better. The black ration bags carried in their baskets and the Mongolian type of the face brings back to one's memory Japanese coolies coaling at Nagasaki, but the dark copper skins, the barbaric ornaments, such as boar's tusks, and wire bracelets, and the spear recall the Central African. On goes the column—a forest of steel becoming enveloped by the mightier forest of wood; sepoys and coolies in an unceasing stream. But here comes my lord the elephant, carrying amongst other impediments a Norton tube pump. Three of his comrades ladened with ration bags follow.

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"Chelo, Chelo," is the cry. We have had a long spell in camp, my brothers. Let us prove our mettle in the world beyond. Be the future what it may, the present is with us, and it is "Chelo, Chelo." The moving steel-tipped mass closes up, the slow moving elephants are engulfed in the jungle, the grunts of the coolies grow fainter, the rear guard can hardly be seen, the last well-trained little Gurkha of the rear party turns about, casts a comprehensive glance round, and rejoins his comrades, who in turn will keep watch and ward. Going, going, gone. The jungle has swallowed them up.

We, the onlookers, return excited. Our turn is coming in a few days. For the first time since our arrival we are vouchsafed a clear view of the snows, of the distant Mishmi and Khamti hills. The Brahmaputra shimmers in the bright sunlight, the clouds, white and fleecy, are chasing each other at the foot of the hills and above them is the dark blue of the lofty mountains, no uncertain lines as the clouds roll along the mountain tops, the jagged snow-clad peaks exposed. Only an impressionist artist of the highest order could do justice to this fascinating fleeting effect. A lofty platform, called the Crow's Nest, some 150 feet high is being constructed in camp as a look-out post and for survey purposes.

Captain Bailey, of the Indian Political Department, who has been attached to this expedition, left to-day to join the Mishmi Mission. Postal communication is now quite regular and telegraph service with Dibrugarh has been resumed. A fleet of dugouts are now here with their Miri boatmen, and it is hoped that Pasighat is high and dry again.

KOBO, *22nd October.*

Later.

At 7 a.m. the six selected Nagas with mahogany-coloured bamboo shields in their left hands and a spear in their right, a bright red blanket, thrown over their shoulders led the way with the scouts of the 8th Gurkhas. It is their duty to discover the whereabouts of the enemy and that of the advance guard in addition to its recognised functions is to make adequate provisions for the protection of the flanks of the long thin column. This is done by detaching parties when an opportunity occurs of protecting the flanks such as on arrival at a clearing, an open space, on parallel tracks where the jungle is thinner than usual, or at cross paths. Great stress is laid upon taking these precautions.

AT THE ADVANCE BASE.

PASIGHAT, *25th October.*

A thunderstorm broke over the camp during the night.

At 5.30 a.m. the Sappers and Miners with the Pioneers went on ahead to clear the road. The column started at 6.45 and experienced a little difficulty for the first two miles in crossing nullahs knee deep in water, the poles composing the bridges being removed as too slippery for heavily accoutred men and laden coolies. One sepoy fell into the water without receiving any injuries.

The track wound through thin jungle until this camp, the advance base of the expedition was reached. In an incredibly short time the camp was cleared by Naga coolies and sepoys.

The long thin column moved to their allotted places with the greatest regularity.

Balek, the stockade occupied by a garrison of military police since last April, is six miles to the west of the camp. A testimonial to the behaviour of this detachment was the immediate arrival of numerous friendly Pasi Abors, men, women and children carrying forage for sale to our camp. This is the limit of the sphere of British influence and we stand on the threshold of the unknown. The Dihong dashes by and the mountain of Rigam—sacred to the Abors as being the dwelling place of a deity in the guise of fish who swim in a supposed tank near its summit—is in front. As I am writing this, the first boat of Lieutenant Webb's convoy from Kobo is coming in. We must, however, yet await the arrival of the second column and the completion of the arrangements here before any further forward movement is made. So far nothing has been seen of the enemy.

PASIGHAT, *26th October.*

Later.

THE FIRST BRUSH.

Signalling cannot be maintained between Ledum and Kobo. A site for a station has been selected north-east of Ledum.

The advance guard of the Ledum column got into touch with two parties of the enemy north of Ledum and killed one man of the Lebang clan.

A little later some fifty of the enemy engaged the column but retired at once when fire was opened.

There were no casualties on our side.

This party of the enemy is reported to have six or seven days' food with them.

A boat convoy which left here this morning is reported to have arrived at Kobo.

THE SECOND ENCOUNTER.

28th October.

News has been received from the Ledum Column that yesterday the advance guard of the 2nd Gurkhas encountered a party of the enemy near Mishing, half a day's journey from Ledum. The enemy discharged a flight of poisoned arrows amongst them, fortunately without inflicting any damage. The advance guard fired, killing two of the enemy and wounding three. The enemy then retired. The quivers carried by the men who were killed were found to be filled with freshly poisoned arrows.

I seized the opportunity to visit the Military Police post at Balek in company with Mr. Bentinck, the Assistant Political Agent, and Mr. Harrison, whose influence with and knowledge of the local Miris is very great. The track led through a beautiful bamboo forest, and a sparsely wooded patch pointed out to us by our guide as the site of a former stockade held by the Abors against the British Punitive Expedition of 1859. History to-day repeats itself. Kumasi was occupied three times by British troops and Pasighat three times, yet no permanent footing was gained in the Abor country until the Military Police, with Mr. Bentinck, selected Balek as a suitable spot to resist any possible incursion of the Abors after the outrage on Mr. Williamson and his party in March last. The value of the occupation of this post since April cannot be underrated. For perhaps the last time in their dealings with us the Abors might be said to be threatening the plains. Balek, which lies six miles from here, was occupied by a garrison of 150 Military Police with two 7-pounder guns without any opposition. The Pasi Abors, now friendly par occasions, were overawed and the situation was saved. The Column has been enabled to reach here without opposition. Picture the lurking foes in the dense forest we have come through. Signalling communication in April was at once established with Saikwaghat and has been maintained. Every time we flashed a message at our comrades at Saikwaghat who are going on the Mishmi Mission, it brought us in touch with civilisation for a brief spell. Balek means a "bamboo grove," and lies on high ground. Here is a bamboo stockade, one of those lonely posts where the British officer is carrying on his duties all over the world. On the north-west frontier, in Burma, and in Africa: how well I know them. "Constabulary duties must be done," as Gilbert wrote.

(To be continued).

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE MEKRAN COAST, JANUARY—APRIL, 1910.

BY LIEUT. H. E. KENYON, R.A.

(By permission of the Committee of the United Service Institution of India.)

THE importation of arms into Afghanistan and the arming of the tribesmen is a great and serious danger which has been growing up on the Indian Frontier during recent years.

The rifles come from Europe, and the port of distribution is Muscat, the capital of the protected State of Oman. It is only recently that this traffic in arms has reached alarming dimensions, calling for strenuous and systematic steps being taken by His Majesty's Government for the suppression of the trade.

Treaties have been concluded with the Sheikh of Debai and

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others to prevent the import of arms, and every State in the Persian Gulf, with the exception of Oman, has joined in the prohibition of this traffic. The Sultan of Oman is also anxious to join in the prohibition, but is prevented by the treaties concluded with France, America and Holland fifty years ago under entirely different circumstances. It is the opinion of many that if the French treaty was abrogated and Muscat closed, the entire arms trade of the Gulf would collapse. This is, however, by no means certain, as the arms imported into Persia are manufactured by three other nations besides France; the value of the French arms being less than one-tenth of the total. Moreover, France could hardly be expected to surrender treaty rights without getting something in return.

In the meantime the East India Squadron has been largely employed in patrolling the Gulf, with the object of searching dhows and stopping all carriage of arms to the Mekran Coast. These vessels are, however, not sufficient in themselves, owing to their size and draft; what is required being fast vessels, of small draft, capable of pursuing dhows into shallow waters and creeks. With this object a number of tugs were sent up from Bombay, and these patrol closer and are able to examine the various creeks. Consequent on these measures the arms traffic, which had doubled between 1906 and 1908, fell in value from £237,000 in 1908, to £103,000 in 1909, and to still less in 1910, In spite of every precaution, however, dhows do succeed in getting through the blockade, and arms have been landed on the Mekran Coast.

The gun traders' methods are as follows:—

The arms are loaded on to dhows and brought across to the Mekran Coast. The dhow is met by a small caravan who unload the rifles and ammunition—load them up on camels, and carry them about 20 miles inland, where hitherto they have been unmolested. These small parties store all arms so collected at a depôt, adding to them as occasion offers. There they await the arrival of the Kafilas from Afghanistan, consisting of 2-3000 Afghans, who visit these depôts, take over the arms, and convey them into their own country.

It was, therefore, with the object of operating against these coast caravans and depôts that early in 1910 it was decided to send a small landing force up the Gulf in addition to the naval forces patrolling the coast. The Mekran Coast is practically desert, a few small scattered villages here and there located where water is easily obtainable. The actual beach is hard and excellent for marching on, but inland the country is chiefly soft loose sand and shale, till you reach the foot of the hills about 20 miles inland. The most important town on the Mekran coast is Jask, 600 miles from Karachee, and 127 miles from Muscat on the Arabian coast. Jask is a telegraph station pure and simple.

The buildings consist of quarters for the Telegraph officials, and barracks for one battalion of Native Infantry. The whole station has a very strong barbed wire fence round it, and could offer strong resistance to an attack by irregular troops.

At Jask is the Persian overland telegraph line, also submarine cables to Muscat, Karachee, and Gwadur (half-way between Karachee and Jask). Besides these there is now a very powerful wireless telegraph station at Jask, and it is by means of this wireless telegraph station that the Commander-in-Chief of the East Indian Squadron, Admiral Slade, obtained information from the intelligence officer at Jask of the reported movements of the gun runners.

The greater part of that portion of the ship's companies of the cruisers ordinarily available for landing operations were already employed in small boats on the coastal blockading cordon.

Thus the Navy were unable to land a force sufficiently strong to ensure success against the bodies of Afghans, or others, who might be protecting the depôts, apart from the fact that such operations are outside their province. The despatch of a military force was therefore deemed necessary.

Such an expedition being of the nature of a raid, the main factors to be considered were:—Firstly, mobility; secondly, capacity for rapid embarkation or disembarkation; thirdly, suitability for prolonged periods at sea on shipboard. With reference to this capacity for rapid embarkation or disembarkation work, it should be noted that, if Artillery is to be included, Mountain or Pack Artillery is the Artillery most suited to the work. Owing to the nature of the equipment it can be easily stowed in lifeboats; it takes up very little room; its presence cannot be detected till disembarking commences; and even then it is extremely doubtful if the presence of a gun would be detected until it had been assembled.

Also when re-embarking it can be used up to the last moment in covering a re-embarkation, and can be rapidly taken to pieces, placed in boats, and taken away. In all landing operations, therefore, Mountain or Pack Artillery should be included, for, even if heavier guns are to be brought up eventually, landing them must be a lengthy and dangerous duty in the presence of an enemy, whilst the mountain gun, as has been shown, can be easily landed, and can then be man-handled or transported by hand wherever required. They do not necessarily require mules, though one mule per gun will add greatly to mobility as draught can be used; and the same holds good in re-embarkation. It might be urged that the Navy could themselves perform these duties with their own guns. This is true to a certain extent, and no doubt they would render great assistance, but, on the Mekran coast, battleships are often unable to approach safely within two or three miles of the beach, owing to its shelving nature, and therefore would be firing at very much longer ranges than the guns on the shore. Also (I am open to correction), but I do not think the Navy carry any shrapnel shell. This is a very serious drawback for such work, as the effect of bursting shrapnel over an enemy has a far greater stopping effect than bursting common or high explosive shell which, after all, have been given to the Navy for use against other battleships, and are not intended for use as a man-killing projectile.

To return to my subject; it was therefore on the 15th January, 1910, that orders were received for the mobilisation of one section of No. 31 Mountain Battery with 36 mules, to be ready to proceed to Bombay on receipt of further orders. There was of course much speculation as to what the ultimate destination of the section would be, but the only further information received was that "the greater part of the time would be spent at sea." Another order stated "all mules were to have shoes removed," so that it may not be out of place to mention here that in India Mountain Battery mules do not in the ordinary course of events wear shoes at all. On the 17th January, 1910, orders were received to proceed to Bombay on the 19th, and the requisite rolling stock was at once prepared. The strength of the section was 2 British officers, 1 native officer, 41 gunners, 44 drivers, 8 followers, and 36 mules; and the train was composed of 2 brake vans, 2 wagons (covered goods), 4 wagons (horse), 1 composite, 3 third class compartments. Two Bunnias also came to provide rations, etc., as far as Bombay. They should have returned from that port, but they absent-mindedly walked on to the lighters, and, before they realised their mistake, they found themselves sailing from Bombay, with no prospect of doing any business for some weeks at any rate. The first intimation we had that they were on board was a petition from them to the effect that they had no opportunity of making any money, and might they have compensation.

The Section left Ghangora on the 19th January, 1910, and the train left the station at 4.15 p.m., it having taken about half-an-hour to entrain. The railway authorities had instructions to run us through as fast as possible, and so well did the O. & R. R. act up to them, that at the few stations we did stop at the Station Master invariably greeted us with "you are travelling a tremendous pace—where are you going to?" But this was just what we did not know.

However, on the morning of the 20th we found it all in the *Pioneer*—strength of force, ship, destination, and object.

The good work of the O. & R. R. was however neutralised when we got on to the G.I.P. No time table had been drawn out for us. Short halts of ten minutes here and there were occasionally allowed, not of the very slightest use for feeding and watering animals, cooking rations, etc. So that we had to make our own arrangements with the station masters for suitable waits from one to two hours. We arrived at Bombay at

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7 p.m. on 21st January, detrained at once, watered the mules, and after a veterinary examination, they were led straight on to the lighters and towed off to the R.I.M.S. *Hardinge*. Guns, stores, saddles, fodder, etc., were also sent off as rapidly as possible, and at 10.15 p.m. (3½ hours after the train had arrived), the *Hardinge* weighed anchor, and we left Bombay. The whole force was carried on the *Hardinge*, and consisted of the following details:—

1 Section No. 31 Mountain Battery. 36 mules.
1 Section 3rd Sappers and Miners. 6 mules.
4 Companies 123rd (Outram's) Rifles (with 2 maxims). 10 mules.
51 Army Bearer Corps.
Field Hospital.
30 S. and T. with 71 mules.

Making a total of about 600 officers and men and 123 mules. The whole being under the command of Colonel Delamain, D.S.O., commanding 123rd (Outram's) Rifles. The following day a certain amount of consternation was caused by a report that no trace could be found on the ship of either of the guns. The fact was that the Indian Marine Officers had taken absolute charge of the embarkation, and, not unnaturally, had failed to recognise in the various pieces of heavy metal they took on board the component parts of a mountain gun. These had been placed practically at the bottom of the hold, and then several thousands of maunds of hay, bhoosa, kit, etc., had been stacked on top of them; consequently the greater part of the next day was spent in digging out the guns.

On the sealed orders being opened, we found that we were to proceed at once to Khorlash, about 900 miles from Bombay—on the Mekran coast and close to Jask—there a portion of the force was to disembark and capture an arms depôt, which was supposed to be from 15 to 20 miles from the coast. We arrived at Khorlash at 7.21 on the evening of the 25th January, and the disembarkation commenced at once of the Section Mountain Battery, 200 men from Outram's Rifles, with two machine guns, and about 40 mules for transport. In addition to these we were to have 17 sailors from the flagship, who were to form

DISEMBARKING MOUNTAIN BATTERY MULES.

a demolition party, and destroy any arms and ammunition which we might capture. We were all of us quite new to disembarkation work, and the fact that it had to be done in the dark did not make it any easier. The *Hardinge* had to lie

MOUNTAIN BATTERY MULES.

off about two miles from the beach, and men and mules had to be towed ashore in the lifeboats. The absence of suitable boats for transporting the mules was a very great hindrance.

The mules were slung off the ship into the lifeboats, and they had only the curved steel bottom of the boats to stand on, and consequently in their first struggles on being unslung they frequently fell down, and it was providential that none of them were seriously hurt. Later on, when they had learned what was expected of them, they used to stand perfectly still, though even then a sudden jerk on the tow rope or an extra large wave would very nearly throw some of them down. Had flat wooded bottoms been fitted into the mule boats a great deal of time and trouble would have been saved. The method of unloading the mule boats was to run the boats on to the beach, push them broadside on, and then six to ten men would rock the boats till the mules jumped out to save themselves from falling. This at first was a job, taking frequently a quarter of an hour, but later on the disembarking of 8 mules from a boat was done in from threequarters to one and half minutes, as the mules used to jump out the moment the boat touched the ground. In fact, when re-embarking again, a man had to be told off specially to watch the mules and prevent those in the boat from jumping out again.

On this first occasion it took nearly half an hour to unload some of the boats. This, coupled with the fact that there were only two launches for towing work, made the disembarkation slow work.

There were eight Mountain Battery mules or ten S. and T. mules in each boat, and each tow consisted of two mule boats on this occasion. It was a bitterly cold night, and the beach parties had to work in water up to their waists for half an hour or so, and then shiver on the beach for the best part of an hour till next tow arrived. With more tugs there would have been less waiting, and the ships would have been emptied quicker. The flagship sent a large beach party to assist, and these men were very glad to be told at 4.30 a.m. that the approaching tow was the last, and that they might return to their ship when

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they had got the mules out. All this time the tide had been going out, consequently the last lot of mules had to walk 600 or 700 yards through the water to join those that had previously disembarked. The naval detachment worked with renewed energy in their anxiety to get back to their ship, and we could hear their cheers as mule after mule was persuaded to jump out of the boat. These mules cantered through the water and across the sands by themselves, pulled up when they saw us through the darkness, stood for about half minute, and then bolted. Six of them got away altogether, and we did not see them again for some days. It was then 5.15 a.m., so that it had taken practically 10 hours' incessant work to disembark 1 Section 31 Mountain Battery with 30 mules, 200 Infantry, with two machine guns, 40 S. and T. mules, and food and water for three days.

We had commenced disembarking at 7.30 p.m. with the intention of doing a night march. Colonel Delamain decided the force must march at once, so the mules necessary to fully equip one gun were selected, and at 5.30 a.m. we started. The first five miles was over deep, soft, shifting sand, and very difficult walking for man and beast. At about 8.30 a.m. we passed through a village, and the Infantry captured a man, who said he knew where there was an arms depôt. It was now getting hot, and we were beginning to feel the effect of the night's work—all of us having been soaked from head to foot, and half frozen in the intervals.

The naval detachment were at a great disadvantage, as they were wearing blue serge clothes, gaiters and straw hats, and also carrying all the demolition stores and a large quantity of ships cocoa and biscuits. Fortunately for them we were able to distribute some of their loads amongst the mules. Even so, their task was a most difficult one, and they earned the admiration of all by their grit.

(To be concluded).

1812 IN THE PENINSULA.

SEPTEMBER.

(Continued from page 110.)

There is but little to chronicle concerning the doings of the 5th Regiment during the month of September, 1812. If the condition of the British troops in Madrid, although as we have seen they were envied by the troops in the field, was not too satisfactory, that of the inhabitants was desperate indeed. While there were plenty of provisions in the markets, no one had any money; there was no one able to purchase anything that was for sale, though the houses were full of rich furniture; there were many deaths from starvation, even among the noble classes; yet their troubles were borne silently, there was no violence and few thefts. Scarce as money was among the officers of the British garrison, their hearts were touched by the misery existing around them, and among the officers of the 3rd Division a soup kitchen, as it would now be called, was formed and by its means assistance was given to many. "Surely," as Napier remarks, "this is not the least of the many honourable distinctions those brave men have earned.[1]

But while the 3rd and Light Divisions languished penniless in Madrid matters were not so peaceful among the troops at the Escurial, where they had been sent to avoid the heat of the capital. General Clausel, who had succeeded Marmont in the command of the French Army of Portugal, had with great industry succeeded in restoring the efficiency of his army, and was now, at the beginning of September, concentrating on the Douro threatening the British communications.[2]

But before we follow the movements of Lord Wellington in the field we have to bid farewell to the 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment. Reduced in numbers though not in efficiency by the severe campaigns of the past three years, the 2nd Battalion, on the arrival of the army in Madrid, was ordered home to recruit. Its effective soldiers were transferred to 1st Battalion, and on the 3rd September the Battalion left Madrid, embarked at Lisbon in November, and landed at Plymouth on the 1st December. Lord Wellington showed his appreciation of the services which the Battalion had rendered in the following extract from General Orders:—"The Commander of the Forces cannot part with the officers and non-commissioned officers of the 2nd Battalion of the 5th Regiment without again requesting them to accept his thanks for their uniform good conduct and brilliant and important services since they have been under his command."

The news of General Clausel's movement against their communications brought the inactivity of the Allies to an abrupt end. The idea of capturing Burgos had long been in Lord Wellington's mind, and the stay at Madrid seems to have been only a cloak to cover his real intentions. On the 1st September he left Madrid with four divisions, two Portuguese brigades and some cavalry and moving swiftly to the northward left Arevalo on the 4th, crossed the Douro and established himself at Valladolid on the 7th, General Clausel and his re-organized army falling back before him through Burgos on the 17th September.[3] Sickness had reduced the Allies to such an extent that only some 21,000 men including cavalry were assembled before the town, though the arrival of 12,000 Spaniards of the army of Galicia added to their numbers if not to their efficiency. General Clausel's retreat was conducted with consummate skill, and passing through Burgos, where he was joined by Cabarette, these two generals retreated to Briviasca. Here they were joined by the reserve which Napoleon, in anticipation of Marmont's defeat, had ordered to be assembled.[4]

The Allies entered Burgos amid great confusion, for the French garrison of the castle had fired some houses which obstructed the defences, the flames had spread and the conflagration was only extinguished with some difficulty. Burgos, which contained the chief magazines of the French in the north of Spain, contained a garrison of 2,000 men under General Dubrelin, and the castle and its works covered a rugged hill; there were three lines of defence, one of masonry and the other two of earthworks, while there were two inner lines of defence in the shape of fortified buildings; the whole constituting a nut which proved hard to crack, though had the Allies' means been more ample success would, no doubt, have crowned their efforts.

The 1st and 6th Divisions and two Portuguese brigades undertook the actual siege operations, while the rest of the troops formed the covering army.[5]

On the 19th September an outwork, San Michele, was carried by assault after a desperate fight which cost the Allies over 400 men in killed and wounded, while the garrison, cutting their way out, escaped to the castle with a loss of less than 150. While the army was encouraged by this success and Lord Wellington was enabled to examine the castle, it soon become clear that the task was heavier than he had supposed or than his means would allow. He had but few siege guns and little ammunition, and an attempt at escalade on the 22nd before the defences had been breached was a failure; for which Lord Wellington blamed the officer in command of the assault, who was unfortunately killed at the head of his men. His instructions were in his pocket, and as the French got possession of his body they became acquainted with the plans of the Allies and the attack could never be repeated.[6]

Work in the trenches was resumed, and the outer line of defence having been mined, another assault was ordered on the 28th September. Again failure resulted through various circumstances and the moral effect was very bad, for officers and men became dispirited and in certain regiments insubordination become rife.[7]

But though the Allies persevered the month closed in gloom and uncertainty.

(To be continued).

1 Napier.
2 Maxwell. Life of Wellington.
3 Maxwell.
4 Napier.
5 Napier.
6 Despatches.
7 Maxwell.

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER FOR THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo fata vocant."

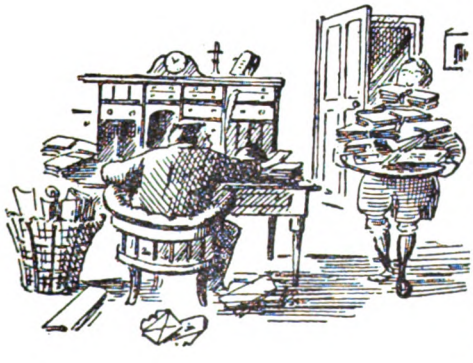
No. 358.] **Thursday, 31st October, 1912.** **[Vol. XXX.**

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
The Editor's Corner ...	... 127	7th Battalion Notes ...	... 132
Our Contemporaries ...	... 127	Editorial Notes	... 132
Subscriptions Received ...	... 127	Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day	132
Betrothal	... 127	The Zakka (*concluded*) ...	... 133
Extracts from *The London Gazette*	... 127	The Abor Expedition (*to be continued*)	... 134
1st Battalion Notes ...	... 128	A Short Account of the Military Operations on the Mekran Coast, January—April, 1910 (*concluded*)	... 136
2nd Battalion Notes ...	... 129		
2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes ...	... 130		
4th Battalion Notes... ...	... 131	1812 in the Peninsula (*to be continued*)	... 138
5th Battalion Notes... ...	... 131	Advertisements i. to viii. and Cover	
6th Battalion Notes ...	... 131		

THE EDITOR'S CORNER.

26, HANS CRESCENT,
LONDON, S.W.,
31st October, 1912.



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Subscriptions should be sent to the Editor; they will be duly notified in the next number of the paper after the remittances have been received.

Subscriptions are due in advance; in the event of a subscription not being paid when due, a bill will be sent (this, however, will not be done in the case of Officers serving with their Battalions, their subscriptions being paid by the Mess President yearly); should a subscription not be paid within two months in the case of a subscriber at home, or three months in the case of a subscriber abroad, after such bill is sent out, it will be assumed that no more copies of the paper are wanted. The name will then be taken off the books.

It is particularly requested that all contributions intended for insertion be sent so as to reach the Editor NOT LATER *than the 25th of each month, in order to allow of punctual publication, and that contributions be written on* ONE SIDE *only of the paper.*

Subscribers changing their addresses, Officers proceeding on leave, and Non-Commissioned Officers and Men proceeding on furlough, or leaving the Regiment, should send their addresses to the Editor.

All communications to be sent direct to the Editor.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following papers:—

"The Army Service Corps Journal"
"Military Mail"
"The Queen's Own Gazette"
"The Globe and Laurel"
"The XXX."
"The Antelope"
"The Tiger and the Rose"
"The Black Horse Gazette"
"The Hampshire Regimental [Journal"
"The Eagle"
"The Regiment"
"The London Scottish Gazette"
"The China Dragon"
"The Suffolk Regimental Gazette"
"The Green Tiger"
"The Acorn"
"The White Lancer"
"The Ranger"
"The Dragon"
"The Thin Red Line"
"The Indian Volunteer Record and Military News"
"The Sapper"
"The Aldershot News"
"The Green Howards' Gazette"
"The XI. Hussar Journal"
"The A.O.C. Gazette"
"The 79th News"
"The Dorset Regimental Journal"
"The Planters' and Commercial Gazette"
"The Snapper"
"The R.M.A. Magazine"
"The Faugh-a-Ballagh"
"The Gordonian"
"Argyllshire Highlanders Regimental News"

The Editor begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions and payments for *Gazettes* from:—

Mr. J. Kirkland ...	... to 31/5/13	Mr. T. Scott	... to 30/9/13
P.S.M., Gosforth Detachment, 5th Battalion ...	,, 30/6/13	Staff Sergeant Gypson ...	,, 17/7/14
Mr. J. T. Rowland... ...	,, 31/8/13	P.R.I., 2nd Battalion, August Sales	
		Mr. J. Dalzell, July Advertisements	

BETROTHAL.

A marriage has been arranged and will take place in Colombo, Ceylon, in January, between John Spearman Armstrong, eldest son of Charles Spearman Armstrong, and of Mrs. Armstrong, of Oakhurst, West Byfleet, Surrey, and Dora Mary Brooke, only daughter of John Brooke Booth ("Boots"), formerly of the 2nd Battalion 5th Fusiliers, and late Captain, Queen's Own Light Infantry (Tower Hamlets) Militia, and of Mrs. Booth, of 6, Amyand Park Gardens, Twickenham, S.W.

EXTRACTS FROM *The London Gazette*:—

COMMANDS AND STAFF.—Captain F. L. Festing, Northumberland Fusiliers, is attached to the General Staff (graded Brigade-Major) and to be seconded (dated 1st October, 1912).

NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Brevet-Major B. T. Buckley, from Supernumerary-Captain, is restored to the establishment (dated 9th September, 1912). Lieutenant R. S. Fletcher to be Captain (dated 4th September, 1912). Second-Lieutenant Wilfred H. C. Brownlow to be Lieutenant (dated 4th September, 1912). Captain W. N. Herbert to be Adjutant (dated 1st October, 1912). The following Lieutenants to be Captains:—E. L. D. Forster, B. H. Selby (dated 1st October, 1912).

5TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—C. W. Fairweather to be Second-Lieutenant (dated 23rd August, 1912). N. M. North (late Cadet-Sergeant, Leeds University O.T.C.) to be Second-Lieutenant (to be Supernumerary) (dated 5th September, 1912).

6TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Lieutenant H. T. Hunter to be Captain (dated 28th January, 1912). Lieutenant C. Chipper is restored to the establishment (dated 11th September, 1912).

7TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain and Honorary Major J. J. Gillespie to be Major (dated 29th June, 1912). G. W. Liddell to be Captain (dated 19th October, 1912).

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1st Battalion Notes.

MHOW, INDIA,
25th September, 1912.

WE have played five Regimental cricket matches this month, winning three against the Central India Agency Office, the 14th Hussars and Mhow Gymkhana. The last match was in the 1st round of the Daly Challenge Shield and we play the Parsi Union Club in the semi-final. The other two matches we lost against the Rajah of Dhar's team and the Indore Residency Club.

Owing to the splendid weather we have had this month we have started playing polo again and found the ground in good condition though rather slippery. On Wednesday, the 11th, the Rajah of Dhar brought a team over to play. A team of ours played four chukkers against them and won easily by ten goals to *nil*.

On the 9th and 10th of this month the Mhow Amateur Dramatic Society gave a performance in the Regimental Theatre in aid of the Soldiers' Home. They played "The Arabian Nights," preceded by a curtain raiser called "Twixt the Soup and the Savoury." Captain Gordon was excellent in the former piece as the young artist who finds the model he has been searching the world for and incidentally his future wife as well.

Lieutenant Ovans left us on the 5th to go to Pachmarhi for a Musketry Course. Second-Lieutenant Vachell rejoins at the end of the month after being extra A.D.C. to the Governor of Bombay for three months.

To-day, the 25th, we were to have held the Arts and Crafts Exhibition followed by a Gymkhana, but unfortunately after nearly a month of perfect weather we have had a miserably wet day, and as a result the Gymkhana had to be postponed. The entries for the Exhibition were not as numerous as last year but were of a high standard and competition was keen. Major-General Blomfield, C.B., D.S.O., kindly presented the prizes.

We have nearly finished the Company Cricket Tournament, A Company meeting E in the final on the 29th. In the Tournament, open to the Mhow Garrison, E Company were beaten in the semi-final round by A Squadron 14th Hussars.

The Mhow Hounds have been meeting two days a week, though it has now been decided not to hunt again until the weather gets cooler to prevent a possible disaster in the outbreak of fever among the hounds. On the 20th we had

SCROLL OF HONOUR, 1ST BATTALION 5TH FUSILIERS.
Carved by Sergeant-Master-Cook C. N. McKim in bas relief on solid English oak.
Height, 4ft. 10½in.; width, 3ft. 5½in.; thickness, 2in.

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a good run of four miles straight going and then lost in the jungle where it was very thick and stony.

No. 7880 Sergeant H. McCoy re-engaged at Mhow to complete 21 years' service, dated 28th ult.

No. 1707 Private H. Blyth extended his service to complete 12 years with the Colours, dated 10th inst.

No. 2547 Private L. Whitehead was awarded a 3rd Class Certificate of Education, dated 21st October, 1908.

No. 1062 Private S. Sutcliffe was awarded a Nursing Certificate, dated Murree, 30th September, 1909.

No. 7143 Private S. D. Field is appointed Unpaid Lance-Corporal, dated 23rd inst.

Good Conduct Badges have been awarded as under :—

No.	1764	Private	M. Doyle	2 from	12/10/11
„	1066	„	M. Bestwick	2 „	15/ 1/12
„	2535	„	W. Munday	1 „	12/ 6/12
„	2862	„	A. Gregory	1 „	19/ 8/12
„	1971	„	H. Wiltshire	2 „	24/ 8/12
„	2875	„	C. Russell	1 „	24/ 8/12
„	2094	„	R. Shaftoe	2 „	27/ 8/12
„	2887	„	F. Goffee	1 „	1/ 9/12
„	2892	„	A. Pollard	1 „	3/ 9/12
„	2889	„	F. Freeman	1 „	5/ 9/12
„	189	„	T. Armstrong	1 „	10/ 9/12
„	2899	Lance-Corpl.	F. Upson	1 „	12/ 9/12
„	682	Private	S. Cooper	2 „	14/ 9/12
„	2905	Lance-Corpl.	J. Hamilton	1 „	15/ 9/12

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

The Regimental Arts and Crafts Exhibition was held on the 25th inst. Entries were open to the Garrison and many very clever and interesting exhibits were the result. Our Mess was well represented amongst the prize winners. Sergeant McKim obtained an extra first for the fine piece of work he has recently carved for the Battalion in the shape of a record of the names of warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and privates mentioned in despatches, a photograph of which will probably appear in the *St. George's Gazette*. He also secured another prize for pipe carving. Sergeant Bracey received a prize for a plan of the Sergeants' Mess. Unfortunately the Soldiers' Gymkhana, which was to have been held in conjunction with the Exhibition, had to be postponed owing to the rain, which aggravatingly selected this day, after several weeks dry weather, to assert itself.

In a few days hence we lose an old soldier (as things run nowadays) and member of the Mess in the person of Sergeant-Master-Cook Charles Nelson McKim, who is being invalided after twenty years' service and a bit. He will be greatly missed, not only in the culinary department of the Regiment, but in many other ways. His field kitchens have become famous in different parts of India, and amongst his many other accomplishments may be mentioned pen-writing, carving stone, wood, hot and cold joints, etc., sprinting and cycle racing. Also as an ex-Drummer he could tootle the flute a trifle. Such a versatile individual should have little difficulty in securing a suitable billet in civil life, and we wish him the best of luck.

Our monthly Whist Drive and Dance, which took place on the 18th inst., was again a success. Sergeant McCoy won the first prize for men—the other three prizes being secured by visitors.

2nd Battalion Notes.

HILLSBOROUGH BARRACKS, SHEFFIELD,
23rd October, 1912.

THE second Indian Draft left us on the 17th and we wish them a safe journey to Mhow. We have now received orders to send yet another draft of twenty-five men on the 11th December. The following incident will give some idea of the present shortage of men in the Battalion. One morning on parade, the order was given to pile arms by companies. One company consisted of one colour-sergeant, one private and two sergeants in the supernumerary rank—a conundrum for drill experts. How should this order have been carried out?

On Sunday, the 20th October, Colonel Enderby inspected the members of the Sheffield Old Comrades' Association on the Barrack Square. They presented a very fine appearance with their many and various medals.

Captain Girdwood left us on the 30th of last month to go on leave pending his departure for Mhow to join the 1st Battalion, whither Captain Fletcher also goes, sailing on November 13th. Major Buckley joined the Battalion on the 8th, and took over the command of A Company on the expiration of his appointment as Company Commander at the Royal Military College.

We have got four officers away on courses. Lieutenants Rushbrooke, Mahon and Brownlow are at Hythe, whilst Lieutenant Heyder is going through a course of cookery at Aldershot. As our mess cook is going away for a month's holiday, we hope that he will return full of cooking wrinkles.

On October 9th the officers were entertained to dinner by the West Riding Brigade R.F.A. (T.) at their mess, whilst on October 26th the Lord Mayor of Sheffield is entertaining the Regular and Territorial Officers of Sheffield to dinner.

We had our first day's cubbing on the 5th, when some of us went out with the Barlow who met at Gleadless Bar, and had quite a good morning.

Our best congratulations to Captains Fletcher, Forster and Selby, on their promotion after long periods in the rank of subaltern, also to Lieutenant Brownlow on the acquisition of a second star.

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In the first round of the Army Football Cup we meet the Royal Scots Greys on the 24th, on the Sheffield Wednesday ground.

The following have left the Service during the month:—

No. 2787 Sergeant J. BURNELL.—Enlisted, 9/7/90; discharged, 5/10/12; service, 22 years 3 months; served in 1st and 2nd Battalions. Service abroad: South Africa, 3 years 47 days. In possession of King's and Queen's South African Medals and Medal for Long Service and Good Conduct.

No. 6951 Private J. MOXON.—Enlisted, 2/10/00; discharged, 1/10/12; service, 12 years; served in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions. Service abroad: South Africa, 4 years 129 days; India, 3 years 346 days. In possession of Indian General Service Medal.

No. 9873 Private H. NAYLOR.—Enlisted, 21/10/03; transferred to Army Reserve, 20/10/12; service, 9 years; served in 2nd and 4th Battalions.

No. 6548 Private A. TUTT.—Enlisted 19/10/00; discharged, 18/10/12; service, 12 years; served in 2nd and 4th Battalions.

No. 6952 Bandsman J. NUNNS.—Enlisted, 2/10/00; discharged, 1/10/12; service, 12 years; served in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions. Service abroad: West Indies, 84 days; South Africa, 4 years 129 days; India, 1 year 328 days.

Certificates of Education have been awarded as under:—

2nd Class:—
(dated Sheffield, 27/9/12).
No. 3393 Pte. J. Marshall
„ 3446 Boy F. Cook

3rd Class:—
No. 2545 L.-Cpl. E. Cunningham
„ 3395 „ H. Snowdon
„ 3403 „ W. Lee
„ 3423 „ S. Stimpson
„ 3429 „ G. Burton
„ 3451 „ F. Geldart
„ 3452 „ P. Parks
„ 3455 Boy H. Parry

No. 9512 Sergeant O. Spaxman and Corporal G. Capstaff qualified to instruct in the mekometer, dated Hythe, 13th September, 1912.

No. 9785 Lance-Sergeant H. Poole was promoted sergeant on the 6th inst.

No. 1977 Corporal W. Bailey obtained a certificate as assistant-instructor in signalling, dated Aldershot, 25th September, 1912.

No. 1982 Private H. Richardson transferred to the Army Reserve on the 19th inst. on conversion of service, under special War Office letter dated the 27th April, 1912.

2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes.

THE BARRACKS, PONTEFRACT,
23rd October, 1912.

DRAFTS and furlough have been the two chief contributory causes of lack of news this month. We have been so very short of men that so far as the Detachment is concerned nothing of interest has happened.

We are having a Detachment Company League Competition starting on the 1st November, which embraces football, hockey, and "hare and hounds." Each Company plays two matches in all three events against the other Companies. This system should provide three matches a week up till the end of December.

We have had a few odd days cubbing with the Badsworth and those who were lucky enough to be out on the 15th had quite a good gallop from Fenwick over a nice bit of country. We hope to see some of our Sheffield officers over here for the opening meet.

Lce.-Cpl. Davison Pte. Saville Lce.-Cpl. Hawdin Pte. Langford Lce.-Cpl. Burr Pte. Routh Lce.-Cpl. Page
Lce.-Cpl. Hornett Lce.-Sgt. Pawsey Lce.-Cpl. Lockhart Lce.-Cpl. Warren
Capt. E. E. Williams, D.S.O. Col.-Sgt. Jenkins
Pte. Hewitt Pte. Murray

C COMPANY—WINNERS OF THE SPORTS CUP.
(Photo by H. E. Howorth, Fleetwood).

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Captain Auld and Lieutenant Holderness are on their winter leave, whilst Lieutenant Foster is at Strensall in charge of a musketry party.

4th Battalion Notes.

HEXHAM,
21st October, 1912.

WE hear that a commanding site in Hencotes, Hexham, has been secured for the erection of a new Drill Hall and Headquarter Offices and Stores, and that plans are now under consideration for the erection of the necessary buildings at a cost approaching £3000.

Second-Lieutenant R. S. M. Logan is to be attached to the 3rd Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment at Reading for twenty-four days from the 21st inst.

Sergeant Badger, G Company, is undergoing a course of instruction at the School of Signalling, Bulford.

The unusual sight of regular troops in Hexham was witnessed yesterday when some 140 all ranks of the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards, attended Hexham Abbey to lay up their old Colours therein. The ceremony attracted a very large crowd. Our Battalion was not represented officially, but many of the officers and men attended individually in uniform.

We are now in the last few days of our training year and the work is being taken in hand; from all appearances the results will compare very favourably with those of previous years, and as the strength of the Battalion has been considerably increased during the year the position may be regarded as satisfactory, although we hope when the new Drill Hall and ranges now in hand are completed that we will then look on present day figures as very poor.

5th Battalion Notes.

HEADQUARTERS, WALKER-ON-TYNE,
21st October, 1912.

WE are now in the midst of our Winter Training, the officers attending lectures by the Adjutant, and the officers commanding Companies giving weekly lectures to their non-commissioned officers.

Our Wallsend Detachment have to announce the retirement of Colour-Sergeant-Instructor McGaw, who leaves the Service after twenty-three years, during the last seven of which he has been Instructor at Wallsend; and during this time he has held the esteem and respect of officers, non-commissioned officers and men. At a Smoking Concert held in the Sergeants' Mess, the Sergeant-Major, on behalf of the Detachment, presented Colour-Sergeant McGaw with a marble clock, suitably inscribed, and a pair of bronzes. Mrs. McGaw was also presented with a handsome brooch. The presentations were made by Sergeant-Major Linley, who in an appropriate speech alluded to the loss to the Detachment and the Battalion through the retirement of Colour-Sergeant McGaw. The best wishes of all go with him and we wish him success in civil life.

We welcome Colour-Sergeant Offord and Mrs. Offord, who have taken up the duties of Colour-Sergeant and Mrs. McGaw.

On the 9th inst. the staff-sergeants and sergeants of Wallsend Detachment held their first Dance of the season, when a number of officers were present, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

"All things come to them that wait," for there is a strong rumour that the Miniature Range at Wallsend will be opened for practice within the next few weeks.

We welcome two more new officers—Second-Lieutenants C. W. Fairweather and N. M. North, who have been gazetted.

6th Battalion Notes.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
23rd October, 1912.

DANCES, etc., for the men will be held during the winter months. The first of these was held on the 5th October, and proved extremely popular.

Our Musketry for the year is a great improvement on previous years. The Battalion generally has taken a great deal of interest compared with former years, but there is still room for improvement. We hope that keen rivalry will be shown by the Company Commanders next year.

277 of all ranks are due for discharge in 1913 and we hope they will re engage.

The sergeants have eighteen Inter-League Miniature Rifle Matches to get through during the coming season—quite a heavy programme—but it should prove the means of bringing some of our young members out into competitive shooting form.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. Ritson, V.D., has now been

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gazetted out, to the regret of all ranks; happily he will still be on the spot to help us.

Congratulations to Captain H. T. Hunter on his promotion, also to Captains A. B. Gracie and A. D. S. Rogers on joining the Battalion.

Winter Training has commenced. A Regimental Exercise (limited to six subalterns and twelve sergeants) was held on Sunday, the 20th instant. The attendance was good although the weather was most unkind.

A very interesting lecture on "Aeroplanes and their use in War, etc.," was given on the 21st inst. in the Lecture Room, by Major Brooke Popham, Royal Flying Corps. It was well attended.

7th Battalion Notes.

ALNWICK,
24th October, 1912.

CONGRATULATIONS to Major Gillespie on his promotion to field rank. He has been connected with Ashington, Morpeth and Belford Companies, and the older members of the Battalion will readily recall his hard work in re-organizing and filling the ranks of C Company after it had dwindled to almost *nil*.

We are glad to see gazetted to us the Hon. G. W. Liddell. We ought now to be able to tap the recruiting area of Glanton, Whittingham, etc., and although the district is not thickly populated, there is a good stamp of recruit to be obtained.

D (Alnwick) Company held its Prize Distribution on the 23rd in the shape of a Smoking Concert. The Commanding Officer attended and distributed the prizes after a short explanatory speech by Captain Jackson, commanding the Company. Other officers present were Major Reavell, Captain Archer (Adjutant), Captain Reynolds, and Lieutenant and Quartermaster R. Neville.

An interesting feature at the Prize Giving was the handing over of the Chipchase Cup, won at the County Association Meeting in August by Sergeant H. Forster, whose father won the Chipchase of forty years ago. This is a valuable prize, and always evokes keen competition.

Sergeant W. Forster, another member of the same family, received the Territorial Efficiency Medal.

Sergeant-Instructor Casey has been promoted to Colour-Sergeant after long service in the FIFTH, beginning as a boy.

Editorial Notes.

26, HANS CRESCENT,
LONDON, S.W.,
25th October, 1912.

ORDERS for Bound Volumes of the *Gazette* for 1912 should be sent to the Editor as soon as possible.

A subscriber who wishes to remain nameless has a number of Bound Volumes of the *Gazette*, Nos. 14—25, for disposal. Any communications regarding these volumes can be sent to the Editor, who will forward them.

The Editor has to thank an anonymous subscriber for some copies of the *Gazette* for the years 1892 and 1893, for which he is very grateful.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY.

EXTRACTS FROM *ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE*,
OCTOBER 31st, 1887.

COLCHESTER.

1ST BATTALION NOTES. H.R.H. the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief made his annual inspection of the troops in Garrison on the 4th inst. After inspecting the Brigade in line, there was a march past and a sham fight at the Middlewick ranges. On the next day the following appeared in Regimental Orders:—"It affords the Commanding Officer great pleasure to inform all ranks under his command that Major-General Sir Evelyn Wood, V.C., G.C.M.G., Commanding the Eastern District, has expressed to him H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief's satisfaction of the appearance of the Battalion at the field-day yesterday, and also the cleanliness of the lines."

The following appeared in Regimental Orders of the 11th inst.:—"The Commanding Officer desires to record in Regimental Orders his high appreciation of the good services rendered by Quartermaster-Sergeant G. Pickford, who has this day been transferred to the Permanent Staff of the 3rd Battalion, and to express the very high opinion he entertains of the zeal and ability shown by him during the time he held the appointment of Quartermaster-Sergeant. Quartermaster-Sergeant Pickford has served over 20 years in the Regiment, for five of which he was Colour-Sergeant, and five Quartermaster-Sergeant."

2ND BATTALION NOTES.—Smoking Concerts are becoming the order of the day now, under the guidance of our energetic and untiring Bandmaster, to whom the greatest credit is due, as each one has been a complete success. We must own with all sincerity that since Mr. Wallace joined this Battalion there has been nothing that he could have a hand in for the good of the Battalion but he has heartily entered into, and I am proud to say successfully.

Our Minstrel Troupe gave a performance for the benefit of Private Kelly, who lost an arm and is about to be sent home for discharge. I need hardly say the songs were well rendered, and the performance very creditable to all who took part in it. The house was crowded, although the prices of admission had been raised.

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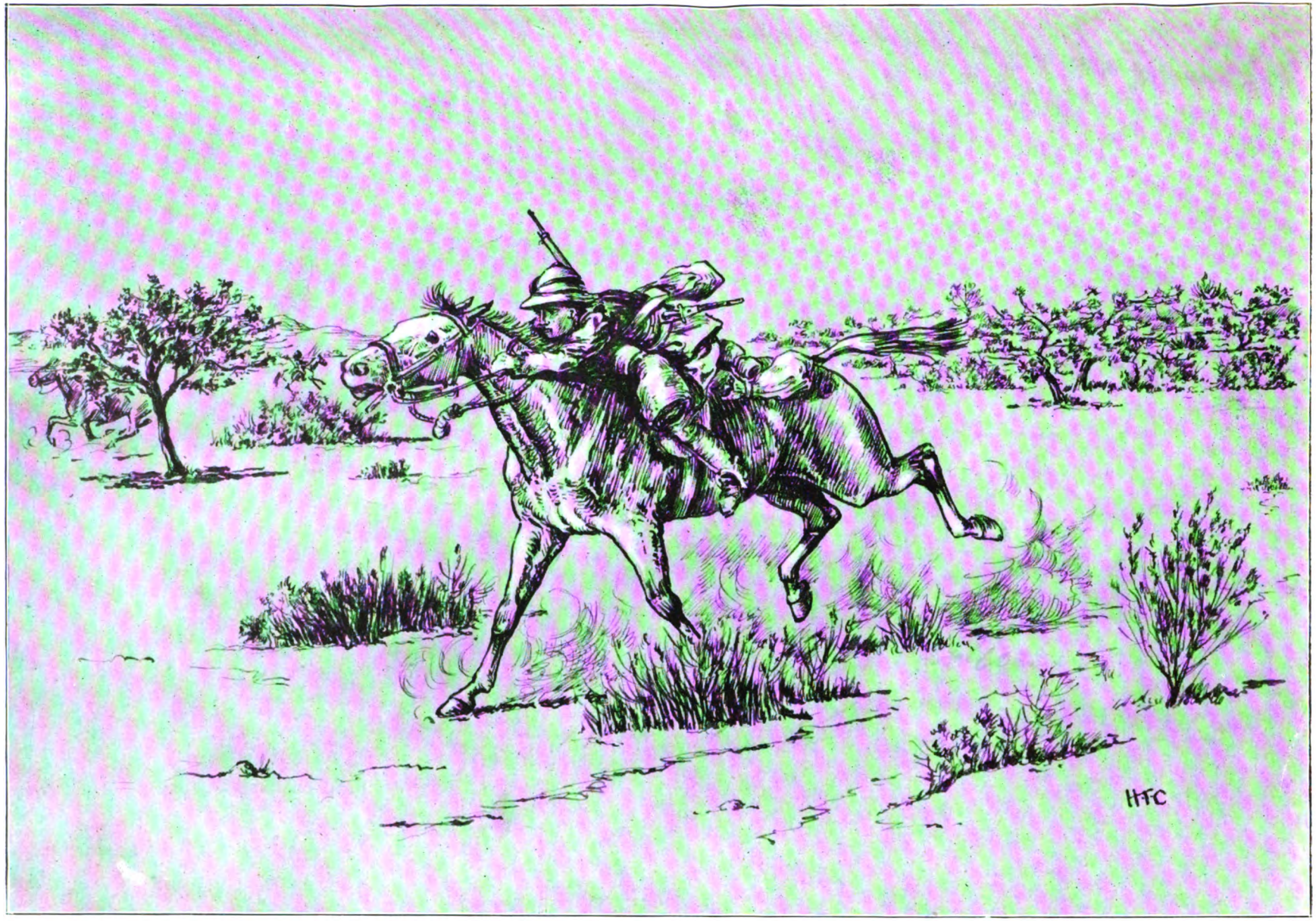

I wish my mother could see me now, a-gatherin' news on my own
When I ride like a General up to the scrub, and ride back like Tod Sloan,
Remarkable close to my 'orse's neck to let the shots go by,
We used to fancy it risky once
(Called it a reconnaissance once),
Under the charge of an orf'cer once,
But now we are M.I.

RUDYARD KIPLING

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THE ZAKKA.

By H.R.S.

(*Concluded from page 122.*)

III.

"Something's in the wind," said Craigie gravely at dinner next evening, "I don't like the look of it." "Why what's up?" asked Monteith.

"Ahmed Khan, the Zakka, has sent in word that he must see me to-night on a matter which is urgent. The appearance of Ahmed Khan always means trouble to follow."

"When does he come?"

"I have told him I will see him here in the garden at ten o'clock. It is better here, my bungalow is watched and the mess is full of servants. Here, with the lights turned low, we will be safe."

"What a nuisance," said Monteith—I have promised to go over to the club after dinner and play bridge."

"Put it off," suggested Craigie.

"Quite impossible, I am afraid, I should spoil the whole party if I cried off."

"Hum!" reflected Craigie, "That's annoying. I rather suspect Ahmed Khan of being capable of treachery and with Kennedy and you both away, I don't much fancy this."

"I can stop here, can't I?" asked Eric anxiously.

"Ah, by jove," said Craigie, with a start, "I had forgotten you, of course you're the very man."

"I could sit hidden in the bushes and keep him covered with my Mauser pistol."

"A good idea, Raeburn," said Craigie enthusiastically.

"I should call it a damned silly idea," said Monteith, irritably. "It would probably give the whole show away."

"It *is* rather a tricky thing," confessed Eric doubtfully, "I have let it off once or twice by mistake."

"There you are," said Monteith, "a rotten plan I call it."

"Well, perhaps it's a little risky," agreed Craigie, hiding a smile, "and it will be sufficient if Raeburn keeps his eye on him and is ready to spring on the first suspicious movement."

"All right, I'll do that," said Eric.

"He's an ugly looking devil, I warn you."

"Oh I don't mind how ugly he is," said Eric, "It will be all the better sport."

The remainder of dinner was enlivened by tales of the wild frontier of the north-west, intrigue and feud, Gazis and Mullahs, raid and cold-blooded murder. In not a few of these stirring episodes either Craigie or Monteith had personally played a prominent part. Eric felt that here indeed was the country for a soldier and opportunity for glory; he thanked his stars again for his fortune in being posted to a battalion forming one of the outposts of the Empire.

After dinner Monteith rose to keep his appointment at the club.

"Let me know all about it in the morning," he said.

"If I'm still alive to tell you," replied Craigie, ominously.

"So long."

"So long," returned Craigie, as lightly as though he were in his club at home and going to spend the night under the guard of the London police instead of in a bungalow round which Afridi tribesmen were lurking in the darkness.

When Monteith had left, Craigie and Eric rose from the table and ensconced themselves in long chairs at their ease. Shortly afterwards two of the married subalterns appeared at the mess.

"Hallo, have you and old Campbell been turned out?" inquired Craigie.

"Yes," replied Dent, the officer addressed. "We've been reduced to seeking entertainment over here. Any chance of a rubber?"

"You people seem to think there is nothing to do with life except waste it playing cards," said Craigie seriously; "I have a bigger job on and one which requires a little more thought than taking money out of you and Campbell."

"Pray God you may be more successful in it than you were in the easier task the last time you attempted it with me," exclaimed Campbell devoutly. "There's no revoking in *this* game we'll trust. What is it?"

"Friend from over the way," said Craigie laconically, jerking his thumb in the direction of the Khyber Pass.

"What, one of your Afridi spies?" asked Campbell, interested.

"Don't call my friends by ugly names. I expect a visit shortly from one of my intelligence agents. I'm rather glad you fellows have turned up."

"What's it all about?" asked Dent.

"Haven't a notion; more trouble, I suppose."

"Great Scott! Do you think we shall be standing to arms all night, or have to march ten miles in Wellington boots or anything of that sort?"

"I say," interposed Eric, who had hitherto remained unnoticed, "I never could do that; mine are much too tight. Do you think I had better go and change them?"

"No, no; don't do that," said Craigie. "It might spread alarm through the whole station. We don't want the cavalry clattering through cantonments or the heavy battery firing the alarm. Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof. So suffer your boots now, and if you can't get back to your bungalow when the time comes you can always borrow your colour-sergeant's boots—it's often done."

There was a full moon which lit up brightly the open space in which they were sitting and threw the surrounding bushes into deeper shadow. The servants had cleared the table, and Craigie now ordered them to remove the lamps. Scarcely had this been done when a low whistle was heard from the direction of the bushes. All remained silent, listening. Shortly the whistle sounded again more clearly. This time Craigie, without moving, repeated the signal. On this there crept out from the bushes into the moonlight the strangest figure Eric had ever seen. A man of medium height, with a heavy black beard and moustache, above which dark features were just discernable beneath a blue puggaree pulled low over the forehead and surrounding a high-peaked kullah. For the rest, his dress suggested that the man had attempted to disguise himself as a khidmatgar, an idea which was at once dispelled by a display of ferocious looking knives thrust into a red cloth belt and an ancient jezail slung across his shoulders. Glancing cautiously to right and left, the strange figure advanced towards Craigie.

"Salaam aleikum," he exclaimed in a deep voice.

"Salaam, Ahmed Khan," replied Craigie; "baitho ji."

"Achcha," said Ahmed Khan, somewhat inconsequently, and seated himself elaborately on the chair which Craigie indicated with a wave of the hand.

There was a pause of about two minutes, during which Eric fixed Ahmed Khan with a searching gaze, which appeared rather to embarrass the Pathan, who shifted uneasily in his seat. Craigie at length broke the silence.

"Goojery Kaka alabukhy de?" he inquired.

"Chimborazo Kholdo," returned the Afridi quickly.

"Ah! hum!" pondered Craigie reflectively.

Then ensued a lively conversation between the two, each apparently vieing with the other in the use of impossible gutterals. Then Ahmed Khan entered on a long recital, during which Craigie grew graver and graver. Eric, from the commencement of the conversation, had sat with knitted brows, and looked more and more puzzled as it progressed.

Craigie had glanced several times at Eric, with a look of deep astonishment, and at the conclusion of Ahmed Khan's story exclaimed: "Humph! This is serious. A very ugly business."

"What's it all about?" asked Campbell.

"We must ask our young friend here," said Craigie, turning to Eric.

"Me!" gasped Eric.

"It appears that a certain malik of the Kuki Khel was travelling up with his young wife from Lahore in the same train as you yesterday. They reached their village, which is just across the border near Jumrud Fort, yesterday afternoon. In the evening the young woman came secretly to Ahmed Khan, who is her uncle, and confided her troubles to

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him. There had been travelling in their train, she told him, a young British officer, whose beauty surpassed that of any man she had seen or dreamed of. At every station at which the train stopped the young man would descend from his carriage, and, either intentionally or by fate, remain standing on the platform opposite their carriage till the bell sounded the warning for passengers to regain their carriages. Tasliman, for such is the lady's name, was wearing a burqa, and, consumed by passion though she was, could make no sign for fear of detection and could but hope that a glint from the fire of her eyes might penetrate her veil to indicate to the young man the state of her feelings. So she remained, cowering, silent, in the corner of the railway carriage by the side of her fierce old Afridi husband, counting the weary hours till the next stop should give her another glimpse of him who had thrown this strange spell over her. At last, when they reached Attock, the malik left the train to get a drink of water, the young officer was standing close in front of the carriage. Swiftly she raised her burqa and their eyes met. It was only for a second, as the malik turned at the moment to return to his place and she hastily let the veil fall; but it was sufficient for her to see the light that sprang into the young officer's eyes as they met hers, and to read that her love was returned. At every station after this the young man was there outside her carriage, but her joy in seeing him was now tempered by a fear lest his too open display of interest should betray them to her husband. Well, to get through with it, the young officer finally got out at Peshawar, where he was met by friends, and had only the opportunity of turning and throwing back to her one long passionate glance before he was conducted out of the station and Tasliman was left silently lamenting. Now she has come to Ahmed Khan, confessed the whole tale in a flood of tears, and expressed her determination of flying from her village to seek the arms of her lover, whom she will claim as a protector. With difficulty Ahmed Khan has dissuaded her from so rash an action, which would raise a conflagration on the whole frontier, but only on the condition that he would find out the name of her young officer and take him her message, that if he cannot come to her himself he will send her his portrait that she may sit and gaze on it in the moonlight, when the old malik is wrapt in slumber, and so save herself from self-destruction by the poor consolation of dreaming of the short sweet moment when her eyes met those of her enthraller at Attock station. Ahmed Khan has made full inquiries and has found that the only officer arriving at Peshawar yesterday was Second-Lieutenant Eric Raeburn. Raeburn, Raeburn, how could you have been so foolish? Lord, I must have a whiskey and soda." Ahmed Khan shifted in his seat as Craigie rose to help himself. "Ah, the Khan would like a drink too."

"Righto," said Campbell; "I'll give him one. He won't drink whiskey, of course. I'll give him a plain soda." He handed a large glass of soda water to the Pathan, who, far from thanking him for his courtesy, scowled deeply.

"Well," resumed Craigie, "what's to be done about this?"

"But I've never heard such rubbish. Are you quite sure you understood him, Craigie?"

"Good Lord, you'll be asking me if I understand the King's English next?"

"But was that Pushtu you were talking?"

"Pushtu! of course it was. What do you mean?"

"Oh!" said Eric, thoughtfully, and then added "Isn't he dressed rather strangely for a Pathan?"

"Look here, what the devil do you know about Pathans? If you'd known a little more you would not have raised these complications."

"I'm sorry," said Eric, penitently; "but it really wasn't my fault. I wonder what was the matter with the girl?"

"That's what we're all asking ourselves," said Craigie, who had been unduly irritated by Eric's short cross-examination.

"Do you think I ought to send her a photograph?"

"Seems to me the least risk," said Craigie; "it may not be identified. Whereas if you go there yourself it is ten to one you'll get your liver cut out by the Afridi malik."

"I've got one taken in mufti and another in uniform which is considered rather good. Which do you think I had better send?"

Ahmed Khan was seized with a violent fit of coughing.

"Oh, I'd send the one in uniform," said Craigie.

"I say, Craigie, do you think you could go out and see the girl yourself, give her the photograph, and say I am very sorry for her? I am sure you could fix it up jolly well."

"Well, that's the coolest request I have had for a long time! To go and play Juliet's nurse in a Pathan village. However, perhaps, to oblige you, Raeburn——"

"Sahib!" They all started at the interruption. It was not Ahmed Khan who had spoken, but an orderly from the native cavalry lines, who had suddenly appeared. The sowar commenced talking rapidly, Ahmed Khan had shrunk within himself, and the remainder sat with a look of blank dismay on their faces—all but Eric.

"What the devil's the fellow talking about?" said Craigie. "Anybody understand that jargon?"

"I think I can tell you," remarked Eric, humbly. "He says his sahib sends his salaams to Monteith Sahib, and says he is sorry he has not sent the Pathan dress over earlier, as he has only just got his note asking for it."

Dent and Campbell burst into roars of laughter.

"Revoked again, by Gad, Craigie. You must fall back on bridge."

"Where did you learn that bat, damn you?" asked Craigie fiercely.

"I lived the first nine years of my life in this country and was brought up by my father's Pathan orderly," replied Eric, still more humbly.

"Well! of all the damned impertinence!" ejaculated Ahmed Khan.

THE ABOR EXPEDITION.

Specially written for the "Snapper," by Captain E. F. G. Poole, D.S.O., East Yorkshire Regiment. Official War Correspondent with the Column.

(*By permission of the Editor of the "Snapper."*)

(*Continued from page 123*).

But I must close. The orders for the general advance to-morrow have been given. I will describe the Abor method of fighting later on. The road has been cleared by a party to-day up to Janakmukh. From there the supposed hostile village of Renging can be seen; a toilsome climb through a thick jungle. We must cut our way up to it to-morrow, when the gate of the unknown opens. Our Ledum comrades have had two brushes with the enemy, and our turn must be at hand; the overture has been played; the bell rings and the curtain rises.

MARCHING THROUGH THE JUNGLE.

PILUNG CAMP, *23rd October.*

At the edge of the forest a flock of imperial pigeons circled over the halted column. Three blasts of the whistle have sounded. Sitting figures rise and resume their places; coolies take up their loads; sixteen hundred men heave themselves into motion again and the bayonets and spear heads glisten finally in the sun before the entry into the forest begins. The pace is slow and the track has been cleared, so progression is easy and one can look comprehensively around. How beautiful, yet how awe-inspiring is the scene! Gigantic trees interlaced with strings of creepers tower skyward blocking out the sunshine. Only thick massive trees can apparently escape the ravages of the parasites, tall slender ones being the chief sufferers. Twisting and twining round them the creeper carries out its deadly work decking the doomed trees with bizarre mourning weeds, festooning and bridging the gaps between with fantastic yet beautiful pothooks and hangers above the wanderer's head and across his path. The luxuriance and fertility of these noisome parasites, which like gigantic octopuses throw out their tentacles and choke the life out of the trees seem phenomenal. Tricked out in every alluring form as gaudy orchids, as tender

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tree ferns, as feathery and thorny "bet," as water creepers all battening upon the trunks of others, green and flourishing, they carry on their work of destruction. The withered leaves fall, the sapped devitalised trunks sink to the ground, forming a carpet of decaying vegetation, which soaked by torrential rain fills the air with a dank pestilential stench. The eye cannot pierce the thick tangle of undergrowth. Now and again, the glint of sun, where the trees are thinner, lighten the gloomy path. Not a sign of game as yet. Emerald green parrots occasionally scream their resentment at the instrusion of so many visitors; otherwise nothing breaks the stillness of the jungle save the tramp of the armed mass moving steadily forward. At last the eyes are gladdened with a vista of trees, the glimpse of the blue sky above and our halting place. At 5 p.m. the rays of the setting sun striking through the trees, the smoke of our numerous camp fires, produce a wondrous effect.

BEFORE PASIGHAT.

After we cross the Mora Lalli the jungle changes its character somewhat.

The same tangle of undergrowth and the same enormous trees are there, but our course lies along the banks of the river and signs of animal life are apparent. The thickets are even thinner. The sun shines through and the spoor of a buffalo and the pug of the "stripes" are visible. The river, its waters deep green in colour by reason of the mass of foliage overhanging, ripples past many a mahseer lying in its pools. The curious whirr of the cicade, the screech of the hornbill and the cough of a startled barking deer are heard; gorgeous butterflies flit to and fro.

No bugle has sounded since we left Kobo and the march is directed by whistles. The whistles from the rear were frequent until it was discovered that we had become at times the sport of the mocking birds.

Possibly later on the Abors may mistake our whistles for the cry of the mocking birds.

Tracks cross the path and at each is stationed a watchful Gurkha and near him a comrade. They are protecting the flanks and are furnished by the advance guards. There they remain until the rear guard sweeps them up. Now the track grows narrower and to enable laden coolies to pass it must be widened. The Sappers and Miners with Pioneers are on in front clearing. We hear the ringing of their axes and the fall of trees. Tiny birds like butterflies in size fly from a short squat tree. We go slowly on catching up stalwart Punjabi Mahommedans and sturdy Malbi Sikhs wielding axes and shovels. It is but a foretaste of our progress after leaving Pasighat, but there the striking force may not be cumbered with baggage. But our weary march comes to an end and we reach the clearing in the jungle, our camp. Telegraph coolies moving with the advance guard have cleared the wires of leaves and creeper.

STORM OF A STOCKADE.

SIRPO RIVER, *6th November.*

News has come from Ledum that on the 6th inst. two hundred military police under Captain Dunbar crossed the Siring, cleared the barricades and saw no sign of the enemy. The road was good. One hundred rifles of the 2nd Gurkhas under Major Lindsay proceeded towards Kaking, the track being very difficult. After six hours' march they crossed the Sidroong and entered the Galong territory, finding the road covered with sharp stakes called kangies and barricaded. Further on a mile east of a village said to be Kharan and having fifty-six houses they came up against a well sited stockade, on top of a precipitous path invisible ten yards off and defended by a stone shoot and arrows. The party of Gurkhas led by their British officers at once rushed it. Several men were swept off the patch by the stones from the shoot. One serious casuality occurred, a rifleman receiving a severe contusion. Forty men pushed on to the village, which was deserted, and burned it. The enemy were all round, the piquet firing at them.

12th November.

News has been received from Sirpo River that a party of telegraph coolies whilst at work were attacked by some of the enemy who discharged arrows amongst them. One coolie was killed and one wounded.

A slight skirmish with the enemy is reported from Ledum. Part of the column were proceeding the day before yesterday in the direction of Karking when they encountered a party of the enemy, one of whom were killed and some wounded. On our side one follower received a gun shot wound in the head which proved fatal.

OLD RENGING CAMP, *18th November.*

Later.

To-day, a reconnaissance in force consisting of three companies of the 8th Gurkhas and accompanied by the General and his staff explored the ground in the valley of the Lebek river. The descent into the valley was exceedingly steep, a fall of 1,300 feet in one mile. After crossing the Lebek, a ladder up a tree was seen, evidently a look-out post for an Abor scout, who had fled at our approach. The direction of Rotung was made clearer by to-day's reconnaissance and the result will probably be that the road now being constructed by the Sappers and Miners and Pioneers will be carried over more suitable ground. The road-making problem is becoming a very acute one. It is not that the labour is difficult. The soil is easy and wood is plentiful, but it is the amount that has to be undertaken. The Abor track leading down to the Lebek river passes through a forest of large screw pines and bamboo canes partly green and partly brown, across our path. In a small stream beyond the Lebek the rocks in the river bed were apparently being impregnated with some dark red substance. White rocks in the process were receiving crimson spots, while others were covered all over. The water from the hills was probably bringing this red deposit.

After a steep ascent we arrived at the top of the hill when we found the road makers had made good progress. Shortly after this a fall of stones was heard, which was occasioned by the enemy discharging a stone shoot on to a lower path along which they evidently expected us to return. Fortunately no one was injured. I think it is very probable that the picqueting of heights has on many occasions driven off would be candidates for the discharging of stone shoots. This, however, gives rise to another question, viz: "Will the picqueting of wooded heights down which it is impossible to see on account of the density of the trees always ensure that there are no enemy between the picquet and the main body?" On the North Western Frontier where nobody can creep up the bare hills unobserved no doubt it does ensure protection. To illustrate the importance of precautions being taken in the case of gorges below, I will relate an incident which occurred this afternoon. In due course the reconnaissance in force was returning to camp when a precipice, which was being made passable by the Sappers and Miners, presented an obstacle which occasioned a check of some minutes. Three stout logs formed a bridge in the course of construction over the gorge. A road was being made but the crossing at that particular time was a lengthy process. A tight rope dancer would have thought nothing about it. As everyone knows after crossing such an obstacle those in the rear have to quicken their pace to catch up those in front. After crossing this bridge those of us who were behind the advance guard heard a few shots fired in front followed by arrows in quick succession. Quickening our pace we came upon Captain Hutchison, Adjutant of the A.V.L., Horse on the side of the road wounded in the fleshy part of the thigh and smoking his pipe. Apparently a party of about four Abors had discharged a flight of arrows from below into the part of the column where he was. One arrow had hit his shoulder and another lodged in his thigh. The Gurkhas near him opened fire at the enemy who apparently cleared away untouched. Two bows were found down the gorge evidently discarded by the party of the enemy. Above was found a small piece of ground evidently occupied at one time by this party who must have crossed the path before our advance and stationed themselves below. Fortunately, Captain Hutchison had succeeded in extracting both the arrow and the arrow head and received medical attention promptly. He was carried back to camp in a dooly and is progressing very favourably. From

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this incident, it is clear we have to deal with a clever and elusive enemy, capable of applying his peculiar tactics up hill and down dale. To the perseverance of the Celestial he adds a past mastership in wood craft, and with his knowledge of the ground he possesses the power of making the best possible use of it. Step by step, as stealthily as a cat, he can make his way almost noiselessly through the jungle, his unclad feet often leaving no impress. Let us try and enter into his views on the subject with the knowledge of his tactics which we have up-to-date acquired. It is but a platitude to say that the knowledge of what is in your adversary's mind is conducive to success. Where does he expect to find you? What does he imagine you are going to do? What does he know about your former tactics? In previous expeditions there has been a long thin column of sepoys and coolies, considerably hampered by want of knowledge of the country and the difficulties of Supply and Transport. How had the Abor previously rendered it uncomfortable for such an enemy and contributed towards his speedy withdrawal? Obviously by taking advantage of hesitation and any flaw in the arrangements of such an enemy, to his intimate knowledge of the terrain adding an unceasing vigilance and the knowledge of where to apply his somewhat limited tactics. We shall find, I think, that in common with the Chinaman he is unwilling to attack in the open. During the troubles in North China in 1900 and 1901, I remember that though on several occasions the Boxers, actuated by fanatical zeal, attacked in the open, it was a very rare occurrence for Imperial troops to do so. They preferred by tireless sapping and mining and by cunningly contrived barricades and bolt holes, not only to hem their victims in but to escape much damage themselves. Fanatical fury, the preaching of a jehad, a medicine man's supposed magic, are necessary to make an Asiatic (with the exception of the Japanese) or African attack in the open. It seems improbable that the Abors in large numbers will ever be seen, unless presently when finding this column checked by the presence of a large stockade they may attack the flanks. In the meantime it is against the dangers of his employing his annoying tactics up hill as well as down hill that we must guard.

ADVANCE DELAYED BY RAIN.

RENGING, *20th November.*

A most uncomfortable night was experienced by the force last night of almost unrelieved rain which was of a very searching character, penetrating through the grass shelters and water-proof sheets. The only chance of even moderately keeping dry is to retire to bed partly clad, collect around you all you want to keep dry, then put a water-proof sheet over all. It may be stuffy, something may get wet but in the morning you emerge with something comparatively dry to wear. The constant fall of water on a water-proof sheet reminds one of the water torture practised in the middle ages. The camp is a dreary quagmire, tenanted by weary men in rain-sodden garb trying to make the best of it. A campaign is never a bed of roses and bush warfare is seldom fraught with brilliant exploits. There are moments, it is true, when the accomplishment of some arduous task may gladden the hearts of officers and men, but as a rule the daily round is devoid of excitement and the veriest fire eater is often considering how he can best satisfy his hunger and secure a dry place to sleep in. His daily duties fill his life. The comforts of civilisation are far away. There are no bright eyes to distract him and the glamour of soldiering is absent.

(To be continued).

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE MEKRAN COAST, JANUARY—APRIL, 1910.

BY LIEUT. H. E. KENYON, R.A.

(By permission of the Committee of the United Service Institution of India.

(Concluded from page 126).

We were now on hard sandy desert, with low sand hills about 1,000 yards away on our left flank. This continued for about 14 miles, and then we turned northward into the foot of the hills. We had already passed three places, each of which our guide had assured us as we approached was the site of the depôt, and we were all getting fairly fed up. After 19 miles a halt was called, and we discussed advancing further or halting. "Councils of War," they say, "never fight," and this one lived up to the reputation, for none of us were anxious to proceed. Colonel Delamain, however, determined to make one more effort, as the guide was more assertive than ever, that we really were at the place, and we had only gone about 600 yards when fire was opened straight in front of us, and of course all our troubles at once departed. It turned out that there were only about 30 Afghans in one sangar, but it was two hours before the Infantry got into the depôt, and they had fired 3,000 rounds, and the gun 18, before the last of the enemy bolted. We were much too tired to pursue them, and there was really no reason to, as we had accomplished the object of our journey and captured the depôt. We found two men dead in the sangar, and another wounded man, who died during the night. We captured 760 rifles, nearly all of the Martini-Henry carbine pattern, 80,000 rounds of ball ammunition, besides revolvers, bayonets and gunpowder. After we had had a short rest we made our way back to the camp, which was about half a mile away from the Jagin river (and about a mile from the village of Hissar). The Naval detachment then proceeded to destroy the arms and ammunition. The rifles were sewn up in sacking, and the ammunition and tin powder flasks were in wooden boxes. They were all unpacked, and a bonfire lighted from the sacking and wood, and all the ammunition was burnt. The rifles were made up into bundles and blown up with guncotton slabs. It took about two hours to destroy them all. The following morning we commenced our march back to the ship, which had gone on to Jask. We soon began to feel the effects of the previous day, and by the time we had done over 16½ miles march we had all had enough. The following day we marched another 17 miles to Jask, where we were to re-embark. We had all had enough of marching over sand, and at one point where we tried to leave the beach, which is excellent for marching on, and cut across, we got into soft sand, and the whole force automatically halted, and after a rest we made our way back to the beach again. We all re-embarked at Jask that day, 28th January, and very glad we were to be back again.

For re-embarking the mules from the beach into the lifeboats two systems were tried—one consisted of shears with hoisting tackle, the other of rafts. The former was not a success, and the latter method was invariably used on all subsequent occasions. The raft consisted of four mule standings lashed together, and buoyed up by twelve empty water casks from the ship's lifeboats. The mules were led out into the water up to their knees and then they jumped up on to the raft which carried one mule. The raft was then pushed out by about eight men into from four to five feet of water and kept close against the lifeboat's side. The driver and the mule were halted at the end of the raft furthest from the lifeboats, and the other end was hauled up about a foot out of the water and made fast. The driver would then walk along the raft and himself jump into the lifeboat, and the mule almost invariably jumped in after him without any delay.

If the driver only handed the leading rein to another man in the boat the mule almost always refused to jump in, and in the subsequent efforts to get him in, he generally fell off into the water, and the performance had to be gone through again.

The S. and T. mules were often lifted in, their fore feet being lifted over the boat's gunwhale, and then a push behind usually sent them in. Under favourable conditions eight mules could be loaded up in from 10 to 15 minutes—the first four taking under four minutes. From the boats they were hoisted up on the *Hardinge* again by the ship's cranes.

As it turned out, we were to have no more opportunities of capturing arms depots, though we disembarked on many other occasions in the hopes of meeting a party. We also searched several dhows but always drew a blank.

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One of the chief points to remember when boarding a dhow is to come alongside on the opposite side to that on which they have lowered their sail, as an old trick of theirs was to suddenly drop the sail over the side on top of the boat, whose occupants were then entirely at their mercy. When searching a dhow the crew, consisting of from 8—10 men, was collected at one end under a guard, and then a working party overhauled all the cargo until they were satisfied there were no arms on board. A rope was also always passed underneath the dhow and drawn along from end to end to make certain that nothing was hanging underneath, as one of their favourite devices was to throw the arms overboard when in danger of being searched, and make them fast to the bottom of the dhow. On two occasions we put into Muscat to coal, remaining there several days, and on each occasion we saw quantities of cases containing arms and ammunition stacked on the quays.

MOUNTAIN BATTERY MULES EMBARKING.

Muscat is a very picturesque harbour, and though the streets are seldom more than six feet across and swarming with people, the whole town was remarkably clean. There are two formidable looking fortresses, one on either side commanding the bay and town, and bristling with guns. History relates that they have only fought once, and then it was against each other, but the range was too great for the guns, and no damage was done—it is also stated that if they were fired now the shock would bring the forts to the ground.

So much time was spent on board ship that it was very difficult to keep men and animals fit. For the greater part of the day squads were kept doubling round the small portion of deck available, and all the mules were walked round for about ten minutes every day. This is a most important point to remember when animals have to be kept for a long time on board ship. Even five minutes' exercise is most beneficial. We landed on several occasions for exercise and bathing, and the officers had some tennis at Muscat and cricket at Jask, so managed to keep fairly fit.

After having disembarked and re-embarked several times, men and mules soon learnt their work, and everything went very smoothly. 8 M. B. mules or 10 S. and T. mules were put in one boat with four or five drivers. In smooth weather the whole of the M. B. Section, less the mules who went separately, went in two boats, excluding the majority of the drivers, who went with the mule boats. Each boat contained one gun, 48 shrapnel, 5 common shell, 15 men, all the saddles for that subsection, and 10 packals.

On one occasion we re-embarked by night, and we found the ship's search-lights of the very greatest use in getting the mules on to the rafts and into the lifeboats.

Swimming mules ashore was only tried once. A boat was attached to a ship's launch and then the first mule was lowered into the water and turned loose. By the time the third mule was in the water the unfortunate first mule had been swimming hard for about ten minutes, so we decided to push off with the three mules in tow. There was a very strong current running, and the launch therefore could not go slow enough for the mules. Consequently all three were soon on their backs, and were only kept from drowning by their heads being hauled up alongside the boats. When we reached the beach they were almost too exhausted to stand, and the experiment was not tried again.

On another occasion when anchored off Jask we were held up by jelly fish, of which there were thousands round the ship, and we were unable to get going again until a diver from the *Philomel* had been at work for several hours scooping jelly fish out of the various pipes connecting with the engine room. Water snakes are also very common, and frequently came through into the engine room.

But these incidents enlivened proceedings until at 4 a.m. on the 1st April, after being practically nine weeks at sea, we received instructions to leave Jask with sealed orders, which on being

SEARCHING A DHOW.

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opened at 12 noon, were found to contain orders for our return to Bombay *via* Karachee.

It was then getting decidedly warm, and all of us had had enough cruising, etc., for the time. We got to Bombay on the 6th April, and the Section was sent to Kirkee, where it had to remain ready to start at 24 hours' notice in the event of more trouble.

But nothing more occurred, and on the 11th June, 1910, the Section was demobilised and ordered to return to Dehra Dun, where it arrived on the 1st July, 1910. The animals looking fitter than they have ever looked before or since.

The experiences gained during the campaign were valuable. Practically all are points which should be universally known to us, who at any time may be called on to participate in similar operations.

The necessity for the adequate provision of tugs and boats, with the proper equipment of the same, is shown by the delays caused in landing even our small force. These delays also prove how greatly the presence of animals complicates embarkation or disembarkation.

If the unopposed landing of so small a force in calm weather on an open beach can take so much time, it is clear what careful arrangements must be made beforehand when operations on a large scale are being prepared.

The embarkation and disembarkation of Mountain Artillery should be practised in peace time.

Finally, we may note what a difference it makes when both man and beast have acquired what may be called the "boat-habit," and in drawing attention to these points I must close.

System adopted for disembarkation of Section Mountain Artillery:—

1st Boat.	2nd Boat.
1 British Officer.	1 Native Officer.
1 Gunner Havildar.	1 Gunner Havildar.
1 Gunner Naick.	1 Gunner Naick.
18 Gunner ranks.	18 Gunner ranks.
1 Driver Havildar.	1 Driver Naick.
6 Driver ranks.	6 Driver ranks.
4 Followers.	4 Followers.
1 10-pr. B.L. Mountain Gun.	1 10-p.r. B.L. Mountain Gun.
3 Pairs Ammunition Boxes.	3 Pairs Ammunition Boxes.
1 Common Shell Box.	1 Common Shell Box.
1 Small Store Box.	1 Small Store Box.
17 Saddles.	16 Saddles.
6 Packals.	6 Packals.
Linegear for Subsection.	Linegear for Subsection.
Cooking Pots for Section.	Men's Rations for Section.

1812 IN THE PENINSULA.

OCTOBER.

(*Continued from page 126.*)

This delay in the capture of Burgos threatened to place Lord Wellington in a dangerous situation. The French army of Portugal was now reorganised and in process of being reinforced, and Masséna had been appointed to the chief command in Northern Spain. He did not, however, take command personally but selected General Souham for the task of relieving Burgos, superseding General Clausel who was so successful in extricating the French army from its difficulties after Salamanca. At the end of September this army of Portugal numbered some 35,000 men with another 10,000 in support, whereas the British force besieging Burgos counted only 20,000 men, plus 11,000 Galicians who were quite unreliable. [1]

It was not, however, the situation in front of him, risky as it was, which caused the British commander to be uneasy; it was the news of King Joseph's intention of uniting the French army of the Centre with the army of the South and thus throwing 58,000 veteran troops against the line of the Tagus, where Hill was placed with a corps of observation, which was the disturbing factor.[2]

The crossing of the Tagus by this French army threatened the British line of retreat towards Portugal, and it was with an eye on the French movements south of the Tagus that Lord Wellington continued the siege of Burgos.

Yet the concentration of the French forces for the advance was slower than should have been necessary, even though the customary quarrels between the French generals occurred. "I do not know what to say of this damned place," wrote Lord Wellington after the fourth assault on October 4th, when some success was achieved. ". . . . but our final success is still doubtful. Luckily the French gave me more time than I had a right to expect."[3]

The success of the 4th October was, however, quickly neutralised by the enterprise and activity of the French commander, whose counter attacks were vigorously carried out, and usually with success. Ammunition again began to run short among the besiegers, although a supply had recently reached them from Santander on the north coast of Spain, and the possibility of having to retreat before the French advance caused a careful watch to be kept on the expenditure. A fifth assault on the 18th October met with actual defeat with a loss of more than 200 killed and wounded, but though ultimate success was now out of the question demonstrations against the castle continued.

It is time now to turn to the position of the British garrison in Madrid, where the 3rd and Light Divisions had been left when the siege of Burgos began. Life in the capital seems to have been uneventful with exception of one or two alarms, due to rumours of the French advance from the south. Hill's position on the Tagus was none too strong, for the river was fordable on his left, though his right occupied some strong ground, and it was the movement of the French army on his left, where the Tagus was fordable, which caused Hill to send notice of his position to Lord Wellington and which caused the immediate abandonment of the siege of Burgos. This notice was despatched on the 17th October, and on the night of the 21st October the siege was raised, the army moved off after dark, the artillery wheels wrapped in straw. So silently was the movement carried out that the French garrison, watchful and alert as they always were, knew nothing of the departure until some auxiliaries, losing their nerve, began to gallop, when the garrison opened an ineffectual fire.[4] General Souham, commanding the French army of Portugal, who had driven in the British outposts on the 19th October, did not discover the retreat till the evening of the 22nd, when a vigorous pursuit was taken up and the British rear-guard was attacked next day. From this moment rear-guard actions were of almost daily occurrence, until, having crossed the Douro on the 29th October, Lord Wellington faced about and forbade further progress to the French.

Meanwhile Hill had been ordered to evacuate Madrid and abandon the line of the Tagus and form a junction with Lord Wellington's army on the Adaja. On the 31st October the garrison quitted Madrid, after destroying the works and stores to prevent them falling into the hands of the French. The Spanish authorities had demanded that all foodstuffs should be left to them for the inhabitants, but this was impossible in view of the approach of the French, who would certainly have seized them; an excited mob attacked the magazines and the assistance of the 4th Division was required to restore order, but finally a portion was given to the poorest of the people.

There were affecting scenes attending the departure of the British troops. Men and women crowded round them and moved with them for some two miles, leaving their houses at a moment when the French cavalry scouts were entering the city on the other side.[5]

(*To be continued*).

1 Maxwell: Life of Wellington.

2 Napier.
3 Supplementary Despatches.
4 Napier.
5 Napier.

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER FOR THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo fata vocant."

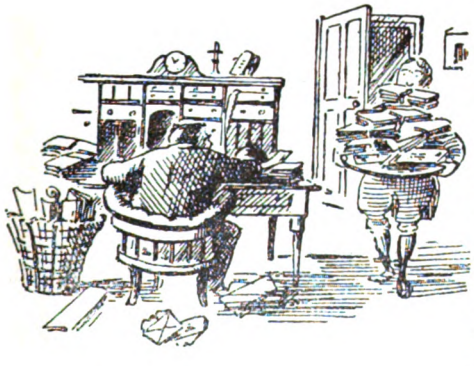
No. 359.] **Saturday, 30th November, 1912.** **[Vol. XXX.**

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
The Editor's Corner	139	Depôt Notes	146
Our Contemporaries	139	Obituary—The late Wm. Murray	147
Subscriptions Received	139	4th Battalion Notes...	148
Births, Marriages, Silver Wedding	139	5th Battalion Notes...	148
Death	140	6th Battalion Notes	148
Extracts from *London Gazette*...	140	Editorial Notes	149
1st Battalion Notes	140	Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day	149
Obituary—The late A. Nelson ...	143	The Abor Expedition (*to be continued*)	150
2nd Battalion Notes	143	1812 in the Peninsula (*to be continued*)	151
2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes	145	North Country Yarns	152
2nd Battalion (Fleetwood) Detachment Notes...	146	Advertisements i. to viii. and Cover.	

THE EDITOR'S CORNER.

26, HANS CRESCENT,
LONDON, S.W.,
30th November, 1912.



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It is particularly requested that all contributions intended for insertion be sent so as to reach the Editor NOT LATER *than the 25th of each month, in order to allow of punctual publication, and that contributions be written on* ONE SIDE *only of the paper.*

Subscribers changing their addresses, Officers proceeding on leave, and Non-Commissioned Officers and Men proceeding on furlough, or leaving the Regiment, should send their addresses to the Editor.

All communications to be sent direct to the Editor.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following papers:—

"The Army Service Corps Journal"
"Military Mail"
"The Queen's Own Gazette"
"The Globe and Laurel"
"The XXX."
"The Antelope"
"The Tiger and the Rose"
"The Black Horse Gazette"
"The Hampshire Regimental Journal"
"The Eagle"
"The Regiment"
"The London Scottish Gazette"
"The China Dragon"
"The Suffolk Regimental Gazette"
"The Green Tiger"
"The Acorn"
"The White Lancer"
"The Ranger"
"The Dragon"
"The Thin Red Line"
"The Indian Volunteer Record and Military News"
"The Sapper"
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"The A.O.C. Gazette"
"The 79th News"
"The Dorset Regimental Journal"
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"The R.M.A. Magazine"
"The Faugh-a-Ballagh"
"The Gordonian"
"Argyllshire Highlanders Regimental News"
"Highland Light Infantry Chronicle"

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Mr. Arkless ... ... to 31/12/12
Mr. J. Goss ... ... ,, 31/ 3/13
Mr. Terrill ... ... ,, 30/ 4/13
Captain E. A. Leather ... ,, 31/ 7/13
Mr. S. C. Bishop ... ... to 30/ 9/13
C. Kelly, Esq. ... ... ,, 31/12/13
Depôt Sales
P.R.I., 1st Battalion, August Sales
Mr. Dalzell, August Advertisements

BIRTHS.

HARDMAN JONES.—On the 3rd inst., at Marton Lodge, Pontefract, the wife of Captain A. C. Hardman Jones, 2nd Battalion, of a daughter.

HUNT.—On the 7th ult., at Mhow, India, the wife of No. 3085 Private W. Hunt, 1st Battalion, of a daughter.

McLEAN.—On the 15th August, at Alnwick, the wife of No. 8744 Drummer J. McLean, Depôt, of a son.

WILKINSON.—On the 6th ult., at Mhow, India, the wife of No. 4170 Colour-Sergeant Wilkinson, 1st Battalion, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ARCHER—DAVY.—On the 5th inst., at All Saints' Church, Ecclesall, Sheffield, by the Rev. Thomas Houghton, M.A., Vicar of the Parish, assisted by the Rev. E. S. Warner, Captain Harold Walter Archer, 5th Fusiliers, son of Mr. Walter E. Archer, C.B., and Mrs. Archer, of 17, Sloane Court, London, and Sand Stavanger, Norway, to Doris Muriel, youngest daughter of the late Mr. David Davy and of Mrs. Davy, of Broomcroft, Parkhead, Sheffield.

PALLISTER—FIRTH.—On the 31st October, at the Parish Church, Pontefract, by the Rev. A. G. Shipley, Vicar of All Saints', Pontefract, Drum-Major A. Pallister, 2nd Battalion, 5th Fusiliers, to Mrs. Annie Jane Firth, of Sheffield.

SILVER WEDDING.

BETT—JOHNSTONE.—On the 18th November, 1887, by the Rev. John Morrison, Presbyterian Chaplain, assisted by the Rev. C. E. Mees, J. M. Bett, 5th Fusiliers, to Mary Johnstone, of Tillicoultry, Scotland. Present address, Kneller Hall, Hounslow.

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DEATH.

MURRAY.—On the 30th ult.. at Swansfield Park Road, Alnwick, William Murray, late Colour-Sergeant of the 54th Regiment, and 3rd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, aged 85 years.

EXTRACTS FROM *The London Gazette*:—

NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Lieutenant-Colonel (Local Colonel) E. S. Heard to be Colonel (dated 4th October, 1911). Colonel E. S. Heard to be a General Staff Officer, 1st Grade, while employed as Chief of the General Staff of the Dominion of New Zealand (dated 30th August, 1912). Second-Lieutenant H. O. Sutherland to be Lieutenant (dated 1st October, 1912). Second-Lieutenant K. H. W. Ward resigns his commission (dated October 30th, 1912).

6TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Major G. R. B. Spain to be Lieutenant-Colonel (dated 19th September, 1912).

1st Battalion Notes.

MHOW, INDIA,
25th October, 1912.

THE can almost say that the cold weather has started, not entirely from the state of the weather which is still fairly hot in the middle of the day, but because every week now officers are returning from leave from England for another cold weather training.

The following officers have returned from England during this month :—Major Yatman, Lieutenants Watkin and Sutherland, and Lieutenant Stephen is due to arrive here about the 2nd November. We have to congratulate the latter officer on the occasion of his marriage last month.

November is to be a busy month at Mhow. During the first week the Commander-in-Chief comes to inspect. During his stay there is to be a review and a field day and other amusements, namely, an American polo tournament, gymkhana, etc.

The day after the Commander-in-Chief leaves Mhow the Viceroy is paying a short visit, when there is to be another review, at the conclusion of which he proceeds to Indore on a visit to the Maharajah Holkar. An extra Company, besides the one already there on detachment, is being sent to Indore to form guards of honour, etc.

We shall all be very sorry to lose our General, Major-General Blomfield, who commands the 5th Mhow Division. He has been transferred to command the 1st Peshawar Division and will be greatly missed. The station are giving him a farewell dinner towards the end of the month.

Recently we finished an American Handicap Polo Tournament, each team playing the others for chukkers. Five teams entered, namely, 14th Hussars (two teams), two gymkhana teams, and ourselves one team. We won this tournament. The team consisted of Captains Sandilands and Herbert, Lieutenants Vachell and Lamb.

On the 24th October our Polo team left for Jubbulpore to play in the Barton Cup. The first round was played on the 21st, when we met the Royal Artillery whom we beat by 6 goals to 3. In the semi-final we were drawn to play against the 12th Cavalry who defeated us by 5 goals to 3. The team consisted of Captains Sandilands, Herbert and Cruddas and Lieutenant Vachell.

At last we have got some promotion and not before it was needed. We are expecting Captain Fletcher to join the 1st Battalion, while Captain Girdwood is also coming back and will take over his old Company.

No. 5203 Colour-Sergeant T. Somerville is appointed Instructor to the Nagpore Volunteer Rifles.

No. 2059 Colour-Sergeant (1st Class Sergeant-Instructor) D. Ritchie, Indian Unattached List, is appointed Acting-Sergeant-Major to the 1st Battalion B.N.R.V.R. Corps, with effect from the 16th June, 1912.

No. 2607 Lance-Corporal F. Carter is appointed paid Lance-Corporal, dated the 4th October.

No. 1273 Lance-Corporal J. Howard is appointed paid Lance-Corporal, dated the 8th October.

No. 8166 Corporal J. W. Allen re-engaged at Mhow for the Northumberland Fusiliers to complete 21 years' service, dated the 30th September.

No. 332 Private P. Gammon extended his service to complete 12 years with the Colours, dated the 4th October.

No. 567 Private J. Hassett extended his service to complete 12 years with the Colours, dated the 12th October.

No. 1984 Lance-Corporal P. Grundy and No. 1104 Lance-Corporal E. Honey have been awarded Acting-Schoolmaster's Certificates, dated the 26th March.

No. 1984 Lance-Corporal P. Grundy is awarded a 1st Class Certificate of Education, dated Kirkee, 26th March, 1912.

The undernamed have been awarded Certificates of Education, dated Mhow, 20th September :—

2nd Class :—

No. 2476	Lce.-Corpl.	Oliver	No. 1933	Private	Knight
„ 3063	„	Lee	„ 820	„	Spraget
„ 2559	„	Dowson	„ 195	„	Grace
„ 2640	„	McDonald	„ 2552	„	Hague
„ 2050	Pioneer	Forster	„ 1368	„	Morgan
„ 8514	Bandsman	Carver	„ 2274	„	Potter
„ 1447	Drummer	Sheffield	„ 2394	„	Smith

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3rd Class :—

No. 2785	Private	Johnson	No. 2283	Private	Mallett
„ 1362	„	Andrews	„ 2713	„	Noble
„ 2628	„	Hanlon	„ 957	„	Filby
„ 2866	„	Sadler	„ 1577	„	Harvey

No. 2719 Private Routh

No. 2584 Private J. Davenport has been awarded a Nursing Orderly's Certificate, dated Mhow, 21st October.

No. 8166 Corporal J. Allen qualified in a Course of Instruction in Cooking, at the School of Cookery, Poona, dated the 31st August.

Good Conduct Badges have been awarded as under :—

No. 1188	Private	F. Thompson	1	from	26/11/11
„ 1981	„	J. Draycott	1	„	26/ 3/12
„ 2582	Boy	G. Young	1	„	11/ 7/12
„ 3075	Private	H. Hall	1	„	16/ 7/12
„ 2084	„	J. Proctor	2	„	8/ 8/12
„ 2897	„	F. Pierson	1	„	10/ 9/12
„ 2901	„	T. Millbourn	1	„	12/ 9/12
„ 2919	„	R. Paul	1	„	22/ 9/12
„ 2922	„	J. Richardson	1	„	22/ 9/12
„ 2104	„	T. Simpson	2	„	23/ 9/12
„ 2784	„	R. Walker	1	„	26/ 9/12
„ 190	„	J. Hewson	1	„	10/10/12
„ 2116	„	E. Scott	2	„	13/10/12

CRICKET.

5th Fusiliers v. Central India Agency Office.

This match was played at Indore on the 7th September.

CENTRAL INDIA AGENCY OFFICE.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Minocher, b Parrant	2	did not bat	
Mr. L. M. Crump, b Eaton ...	15	st Pursley, b Parrant ...	10
„ E. B. Belcher, b Eaton ...	2	b Priestly ...	36
„ D. Mackenzie, c Lamb, b Eaton	6	not not	48
V. Joshi, c and b Parrant ...	5	not out	12
Mr. J. B. Wood, b Eaton ...	4	did not bat	
L. Joshi, b Eaton	0		
Francis, b Eaton	0		
Uttam-Narain, b Eaton	7		
Kishen-Lal, not out	5		
Abdul Ghani, b Eaton	0		
Extras	10	Extras ...	6
Total	56	Total (2 wkts.)	*112

FIFTH FUSILIERS.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Mr. B. H. Selby, b Narain ...	4	c Mackenzie, b V. Joshi ...	9
Lce-Cpl. Yendall, b V. Joshi ...	17	b V. Joshi ...	0
Colour-Sergeant Wilkinson, c Minocher, b Crump	15	b Minocher ...	2
Bandsman Parrant, b Minocher	14	b V. Joshi ...	0
Mr. G. O. Sloper, b V. Joshi ...	14	b V. Joshi ...	11
Pte. Priestly, c Crump, b Minocher	2	c and b Minocher	3
Corporal Wadsworth, b Minocher	23	not out	9
Private Pursley, b V. Joshi ...	0	c L. Joshi, b V. Joshi ...	0
„ Eaton, not out	3	not out	5
Mr. L. A. Barrett, b Minocher ...	6	did not bat	
„ R. M. R. Lamb, run out ...	0		
Extras...	10	Extras	1
Total	108	Total (7 wkts.)	40

5th Fusiliers v. Dhar.

This match was played at Mhow on the 9th and 10th September, and resulted in a win for Dhar by an innings and 139 runs.

FIFTH FUSILIERS.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Colour-Sergeant Wilkinson, b Raghunath	18	c and b Raghunath	4
Lance-Corporal Yendall, c Jilain, b Abdul Rasid	0	c Gofoor, b Raghunath ...	4
Captain W. N. Herbert, c Karim, b Abdul Rasid	1	c Karim, b Abdul Rasid ...	3
Bandsman Parrant, c Raghunath, b Abdul Rasid	0	c Panditji, b Abdul Rasid ...	1
Mr. G. O. Sloper, c Julain, b Raghunath	20	b Raghunath ...	2
„ B. H. Selby, st Gofoor, b Raghunath	28	c Gofoor, b Raghunath ...	0
„ L. A. Barrett, b Abdul Rasid	8	b Raghunath ...	0
Captain H. R. Sandilands, b Raghunath	0	b Abdul Rasid ...	10
Corporal Wadsworth, c Abdul Rasid, b Raghunath ...	0	lbw, b Abdul Rasid	0
Private Eaton, b Abdul Rasid ...	1	b Raghunath ...	7
„ Pursley, not out... ...	2	not out	2
Extras	0	Extras ...	2
Total	78	Total ...	35

DHAR.

Gofoor, b Parrant	24
Panditji, b Parrant	15
Major L. Deas, b Parrant	4
Badri, b Parrant	9
Jilain, b Parrant	22
Thakur of Kathi-Wari, b Parrant	10
Raghunath, lbw, b Parrant	68
Abdul Rasid, b Eaton	45
H. H. Raja of Dhar, b Wadsworth	18
Abdul Karim, c Wadsworth, b Parrant... ...	10
Purshotum, not out	0
Extras	27
Total	252

5th Fusiliers v. 14th (King's) Hussars.

This match was played at Mhow on the 21st September, and resulted in a win for the fifth by 3 wickets and 58 runs.

14TH (KING'S) HUSSARS.

Private Andrews, c Priestly, b Parrant ...	0
Corporal Stacey, b Parrant	20
Mr. L. Hunter-Jones, c and b Eaton	10
Captain ———, b Parrant	5
„ ———, b Eaton	13
Mr. G. G. Moule, c and b Eaton	29
Sergeant Piper, b Eaton	9
Corporal Taylor, b Parrant	3
Corporal Baker, not out	30
„ Booker, b Priestly	7
Major———, b Newton	1
Extras	14
Total	141

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FIFTH FUSILIERS.

Mr. G. O. Sloper, b Moule	5
Lance-Corporal Yendall, b Stacey	48
Bandsman Parrant, c and b Moule	84
Mr. B. H. Selby, run out	7
„ L. A. Barrett, b Stacey	5
Capt. W. N. Herbert, c Baker, b Hunter-Jones	6
Corporal Newton, c Andrews, b Hunter-Jones	18
Lance-Corporal Lowe, not out	4
Private Priestly, „ Pursley, „ Eaton — did not bat	
Extras	22
Total (7 wkts.)	199

5TH FUSILIERS v. DALY'S COLLEGE.

This match was played at Indore on the 5th October, and resulted in a win for Daly's College by 17 runs.

FIFTH FUSILIERS.

Lance-Corporal Yendall, c Dasarath Singh, b Mukat Singh	10
Corporal Wadsworth, b Harbel Singh	1
Bandsman Parrant, b Harbel Singh	4
Mr. R. M. R. Lamb, b Harbel Singh	6
Corporal Newton, c Ashcroft, b Harbel Singh...	0
Captain H. R. Sandilands, run out	0
Private Priestly, b Amar Singh	7
„ Maden, b Amar Singh	4
„ Pursley, b Harbel Singh	2
„ Thompson, run out	5
„ Eaton, not out	0
Extras	6
Total	45

DALY'S COLLEGE.

K. Harbel Singh, run out...	4
K. Sujjan Singh, c Sandilands, b Parrant ...	7
K. Purendra Singh, lbw, b Eaton	5
K. Amar Singh, c and b Parrant	3
K. Dasarath Singh, b Parrant	9
K. Mukat Singh, b Parrant	3
K. S. Ahmaddin Khan, c Newton, b Parrant ...	12
Mr. Jilain, c Wadsworth, b Eaton	1
„ Bapunian, not out	7
„ L. Hide, c Maden, b Eaton	0
„ W. Asheroft, c Maden, b Eaton	6
Extras	5
Total	62

DALY'S SHIELD.

FIRST ROUND.

5TH FUSILIERS v. MHOW GYMKHANA.

This match was played on the 14th September and resulted in a win for the 5th Fusiliers by 224 runs.

FIFTH FUSILIERS.

Mr. B. H. Selby, b Ricketts	1
Lance-Corporal Yendall, c and b Martin ...	72
Schoolmaster Charman, c Watson, b Garrett ...	40
Bandsman Parrant, c Watson, b de Wend-Fenton	137
Mr. G. O. Sloper, b de Wend-Fenton	1
Captain H. R. Sandilands, c Ogilvie, b Watson	17
Mr. L. A. Barrett, b Garrett	13
Captain W. N. Herbert, b Garrett	5
Corporal Newton, b de Wend-Fenton	9
Private Pursley, not out	9
Private Eaton, b de Wend-Fenton	6
Extras	20
Total...	330

MHOW GYMKHANA.

Captain F. Daniell, c Parrant, b Eaton ...	5
Mr. G. N. Watson, b Eaton	1
„ E. L. Ricketts, b Eaton	28
„ E. M. Skinner, b Eaton	0
„ J. de Wend-Fenton, b Eaton	30
„ R. H. Garrett, b Parrant	17
Major-General C. J. Blomfield, b Parrant ...	6
Colonel A. H. Dennys, b Parrant	4
Mr. N. M. Martin, b Parrant	0
Major G. Ogilvie, run out	0
„ T. W. Rudd, not out	0
Extras	15
Total...	106

SEMI-FINAL.

5TH FUSILIERS v. MHOW PARSI CLUB.

This match was played on the 30th September and 1st October, and resulted in a win for the Mhow Parsi Club by an innings and 17 runs.

FIFTH FUSILIERS.

	1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Lce.-Cpl. Yendall, b Pestonja ...	9	b Mosalawala ...	7	
Bdsmn. Lambert, b Pestonja ...	1	b Pestonja ...	4	
Mr. L. A. Barrett, lbw, b Mosalawala	1	b Pestonja ...	4	
Bdsmn. Parrant, c Naidoo, b Mosalawala	2	b Mosalawala ...	56	
Corporal Newton, b Pestonja ...	3	b Mosalawala ...	0	
Lce.-Cpl. Lowe, c Ram Chander, b Mosalawala...	1	c Basu, b Mosalawala	12	
Corporal Wadsworth, not out ...	8	not out	24	
Private Priestly, run out... ...	1	c Furdoonji, b Pestonja ...	1	
„ Pursley, b Pestonja ...	0	b Pestonja ...	4	
„ Eaton, c and b Mosalawala	4	b Pestonja ...	0	
Mr. B. H. Selby, absent	0	lbw, b Pestonja ...	0	
Extras...	3	Extras ...	9	
Total	33	Total ...	121	

MHOW PARSI CLUB.

D. C. Bharucha, b Eaton...	2
Bajana, b Parrant	6
Ram Chander, c Pursley, b Eaton	5
K. G. Bharucha, lbw, b Eaton	16
R. C. Jall, b Newton	14
Basu, run out	1
S. K. Naidoo, c Yendall, b Eaton	71
Furdoonji, b Newton	32
D. Mosalawala, c Pursley, b Selby	2
Pestonja, run out	0
Shawakshaw, not out	2
Extras	20
Total	171

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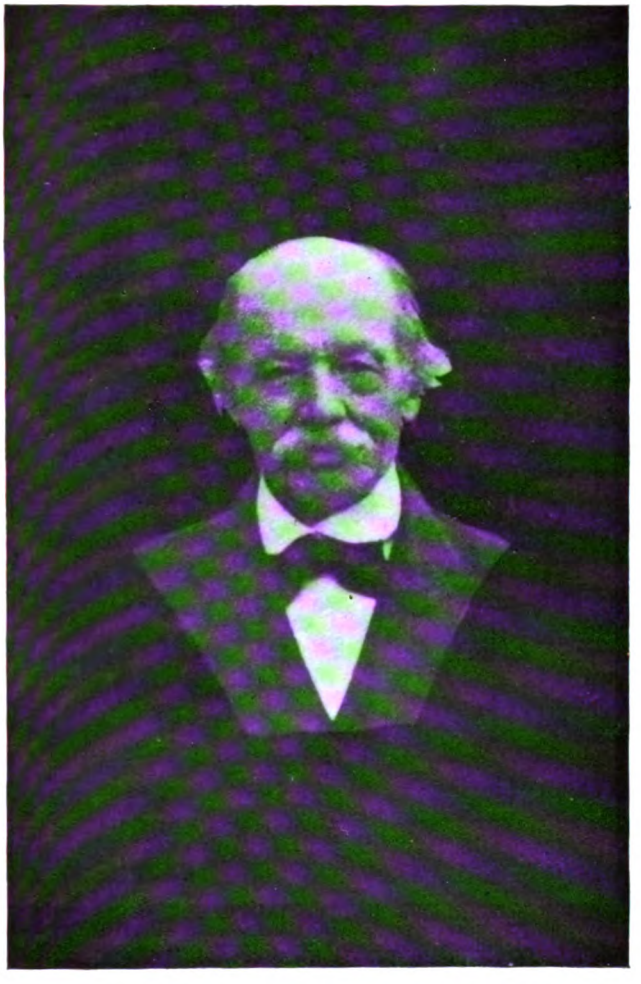

ALFRED NELSON, LATE 1ST BATTALION 5TH FUSILIERS.

ALFRED NELSON.

IT is our sad duty to record the death of another Mutiny veteran of the FIFTH. Alfred Nelson was born at Banbury in 1826 and joined the FIFTH in 1853. With them he served through the Mutiny, being present with General Havelock's force at the fighting which resulted in the capture of the Alumbagh and the relief of the Residency at Lucknow. In these actions he was wounded in the knee and had his shoes shot from his feet, while to the end of his life he retained vivid recollections of the continuous fighting in the Residency gardens.

After witnessing the arrival of Sir Colin Campbell and the relieving column, Nelson served in India until the 1st Battalion was ordered home, when he joined the Army Hospital Corps about 1865, and was stationed at the Military Hospital, Parkhurst, Isle of Wight, until he retired from the Army after twenty-four years' service, during which he had received the Lucknow medal with two clasps and the Long Service medal.

Nelson was, indeed, one of the old school; he was a total abstainer and after forty was a non-smoker, and was hale and hearty to the end of his life; to his family the Editor offers his sincere sympathy in their loss.

2nd Battalion Notes.

HILLSBOROUGH BARRACKS, SHEFFIELD,
25th November, 1912.

WE have just received news that our Headquarters and Half-Battalion at Sheffield are to move at an early date to Strensall. The Barracks here are to be taken over by the Training Brigade Royal Field Artillery from Newcastle and the Depôt Royal Field Artillery from Bradford. Eventually the whole Battalion is to be stationed at Strensall, but we fear the move will not take place quite at once. Nevertheless we look forward to the time when the whole Battalion will be together. We have not enjoyed this happy state in barracks since we left Bulford Camp in October, 1910.

Apart from this we are naturally very pleased at the idea of moving, as we shall, anyhow, have recreation grounds and facilities for sport generally which have not been obtainable at Sheffield. Although the actual date of the move is not yet known it is expected that it will be completed before the commencement of next training season.

Instruction in the new mode of bayonet fighting, which has recently been introduced, will form an interesting part of the winter training. Dummies have been made and put up on the square, where they receive the furious attacks of enthusiastic squads daily. If only the foe that we have to meet in the next war is as easy to stick with the bayonet as our dummies, we think that hand-to-hand fighting will be all in our favour.

Congratulations to Lieutenant Nicholls on passing his "C" examination and obtaining a special certificate. We must also congratulate him on the fine form which he displayed in his golf matches this month, in which he was one of the team representing the Army. According to the *Field*, Lieutenant Nicholls is the best left-handed golfer now playing.

The Lord Mayor's Dinner, to which the officers of the Regular and Territorial Forces were invited, was a great success, and we all enjoyed ourselves immensely. Colonel Enderby and Majors Ainslie and Buckley were present at the Cutlers' Feast held this month, at which the Archbishop of York and Mr. Winston Churchill delivered speeches.

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Our best congratulations to Colonel Heard on his promotion to 1st grade of the General Staff and also on being made Chief of the General Staff of New Zealand.

The weather here during the past month has not been very cheerful and at one time there was so much rain that hunting was rather spoilt by the heavy going. Nevertheless, we have all put in a good many days since hunting proper commenced. Unfortunately scent has been rather poor in the Grove country but we are hoping for better things later on.

We have had a good day with the Grove from Grove and we also went to the meet at Letwell. On the 18th, Colonel Enderby and Lieutenant Leverson were out when the latter's horse unfortunately fell and seriously injured its spine.

Captain Forster on promotion has been posted to the 1st Battalion, as also has Captain Fletcher who sailed on the 13th inst.

Our best congratulations to Captain Archer on his marriage which took place on the 5th inst. at Eccleshall Church, Sheffield, Lieutenant Leverson performing the duties of best man. Our band played in Church and also at the reception afterwards. Besides a large congregation several non-commissioned officers were present who lined the entrance to the Church after the ceremony.

On the 26th ult. Drum-Major Pallister went on furlough pending discharge after 27 years' service, 15 of which were spent in the Grenadier Guards and 12 in the FIFTH. We shall miss him very much, for not only was he an excellent non-commissioned officer but he also possessed all the smartness and drill that a Drum-Major should possess, and as a wielder of a drum-major's baton we venture to say he had few equals. Before he became Drum-Major of this Battalion in 1906, he had had the difficult task of forming the Drums of the newly raised 4th Battalion in 1900, and the playing of the Drums under his charge in both Battalions speaks in itself for his ability and keenness. He was very popular with all ranks and this was proved by the appearance of a large number of the Pontefract Detachment and Drums who turned out to give him a good send-off. Elsewhere will be seen the announcement of his marriage which took place at Pontefract on the 31st ult., and was attended by a large number of non-commissioned officers of the Garrison. We take this opportunity of wishing Drum-Major and Mrs. Pallister a long life and all happiness.

No. 8254 Sergeant (Orderly-Room-Clerk) J. Vernon re-engaged to complete 21 years' service with the Colours, on the 25th ult.

The following have left the Service during the month:—

No. 7182 Private W. SIMMONDS.—Enlisted, 7/11/00; discharged, 6/11/12; service, 12 years; served in 2nd and 4th Battalions.

No. 9257 Private F. REVELL.—Discharged, 19/11/12, medically unfit for further service.

The following Appointments have been made:—

To be unpaid Lance-Corporals:—

No. 2507	Private	W. F. Cooper	from 8/10/12
„ 2963	„	H. Roe	„ 23/10/12
„ 2981	„	R. Powell	„ 31/10/12
„ 3126	„	H. Shoard	„ 16/11/12

To be Bandsman:—

No. 3452	Boy	E. Parkes	from 14/11/12

No. 1159 Drummer H. Hobbs and No. 8677 Drummer P. Hughes have been posted to the Permanent Staff, 3rd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers.

Certificates of Education have been awarded as follows:—

2nd Class:—

(dated 30/10/12)

No. 3070 Lce.-Cpl. D. Mothersdale No. 2715 Pte. W. Amey
No. 3451 Boy F. Geldart

BOXING.

In the Army and Navy Boxing Tournament, held at Aldershot, on the 28th October and following days, we had three competitors, Lance-Corporal Gerardine, Privates Falcus and Smith. Private Falcus was a bye in the first round, but on reaching the third series of the Welter Weights fell a victim to Seaman Garmen, H.M.S. *Ganges*. Private Smith did well in getting into the semi-final of the Feather Weights, but was then defeated by Corporal Evans, Royal Scots. Lance-Corporal Gerardine lost on points to Lance-Corporal Thomas, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, in the first round of the Light Weights. All three of our representatives are plucky fighters, and can put up a good fight, so we wish them all success in their next ventures.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

A number of matches have been played both in the Army Cup, English Amateur Cup, and Hatchard League Cup since the last Football Notes appeared. The good combination, and fine defence displayed by the Regimental Team at the beginning of the season have been maintained with the exception of one or two instances, and should this continue we hope for a considerable measure of success in the various competitions before the conclusion of the season.

ARMY FOOTBALL CUP.

1ST ROUND.

5TH FUSILIERS v. ROYAL SCOTS GREYS.

In the First Round of the Army Cup we were drawn against the Greys, the match being played on the Sheffield Wednesday ground at Owlerton, kindly lent to us for the occasion. We were much too good for the Cavalrymen, and starting off with rare dash and combination, scored four goals before half-time. This was the extent of the scoring as nothing was added by either side in the second half. In this match all the forwards played splendidly, Sergeant Todd, in the centre, making free use of the opportunities given him by his wing, and inside men. They were well backed up by the halves, Cunningham and

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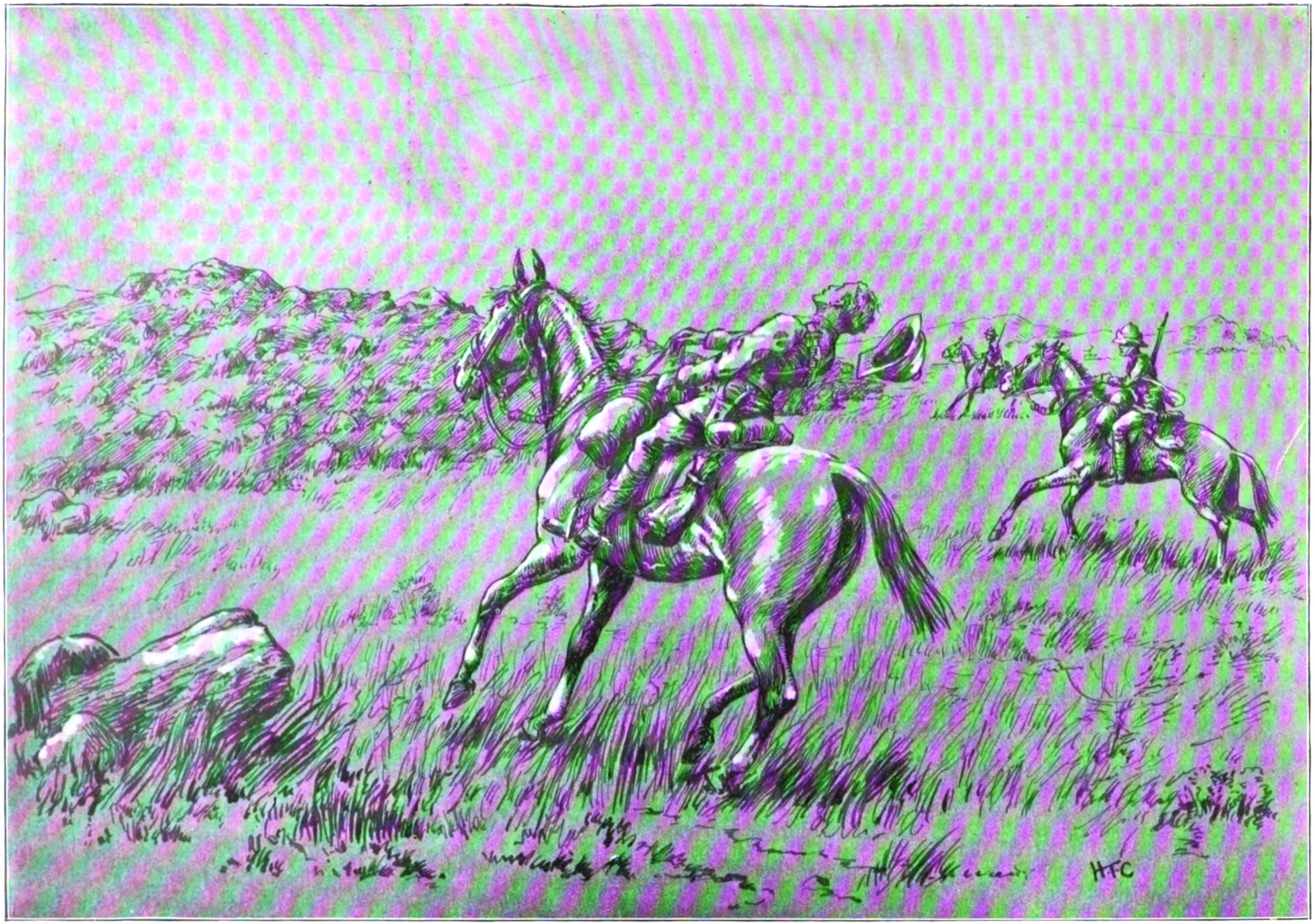

" Under the charge of an orf'cer once.'

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Christie being always prominent. The defence was very sound, Lynn playing a great game. Regimental team :—

Goal :—
Lance-Corporal McGeevor
Backs :—
Private Lynn Lance-Sergeant Draper
Half-backs :—
Lance-Corporal Christie Private Cunningham Private Carter
Forwards :—
Bandsman Sutton Sergeant Todd Private Lockie
Sergeant Hiorns Private Farrell

In the Second Round of this Competition we are drawn against the South Staffordshire Regiment, at Lichfield, on the 27th inst.

ENGLISH AMATEUR CUP.

2ND QUALIFYING ROUND.

5TH FUSILIERS v. HATHERSAGE.

Played on the 19th October on our ground. The weather conditions were not favourable to good football, and our team seemed to be more upset by them than the visitors. A hard game resulted in a draw of one goal all. The following week we journeyed down to Hathersage, a Derbyshire township, for the replay, and although a goal was scored against us soon after the start, the team never gave the home side another chance, and as the result of fine combination, and shooting by the forwards, assisted by the excellent work of the halves, ran out winners by six goals to one. Privates Lockey and Sutton were specially prominent, the former, in spite of being injured twice in rapid succession, continuing to play with great skill and pluck. Cunningham was always doing good work at half, and both Lynn and Sergeant Draper were very safe at back. The goalkeeper was rarely troubled, but dealt succesfully with any danger that did threaten. Our team was the same as in the Army Cup.

3RD QUALIFYING ROUND.

5TH FUSILIERS v. HULL OLD BOYS.

This match was played at Hull on the 2nd inst. The ground was in shocking condition owing to recent rain, and it took our men some time to settle down. At one period of the game we nearly lost Lance-Corporal Christie, who missing his man, dived into a small lake, but after dragging operations he was recovered, and a few minutes' artificial respiration brought him round. We eventually won by five goals to three.

4TH QUALIFYING ROUND.

5TH FUSILIERS v. COTTINGHAM.

Played on our ground on the 23rd inst., and won by us by four goals to one. The visitors were a good side, and kept our team going the whole time, but could not compete with the excellent combination of the forwards, amongst whom Sergeant Hiorns, the veteran player, Sergeant Todd and Private Farrell were conspicuous, and the strong play of Cunningham at centre-half and Private Lynn at back. Goals were scored by Lynn, from a penalty, Sergeant Hiorns, Sergeant Todd and Farrell. McGeevor in goal was always safe. Regimental team :—

Goal :—
Lance-Corporal McGeevor
Backs :—
Private Lynn Lance-Sergeant Draper
Half-backs :—
Lance-Corporal Christie Private Cunningham Corporal Morris
Forwards :—
Private Sutton Sergeant Todd Private Lockie
Sergeant Hiorns Private Farrell

HATCHARD CUP LEAGUE.

Considerable progress has also been made in this Sheffield League during October and November, and we now occupy the third position.

On the 5th ult. we played Cammell Lairds' whom we defeated by two goals to love, and on the 12th drew with Swallownest away from home, the score reading three all. On the 19th ult. we lost to Retford Town by four goals to nothing, but were compelled to take them on with our second eleven as the first was engaged in an Amateur Cup match on the same date.

On the 9th inst. we were opposed by Chapeltown at home, and were fortunate to defeat them by the only goal of the match

On the 16th we visited Killamarsh and were again lucky in drawing, one goal all, as the team failed to reproduce the combination which had been so noticeable in previous matches. Lance-Corporal George was at left back *vice* Lance-Sergeant Draper on the injured list, and played a sound game.

GARRISON FOOTBALL AND HOCKEY LEAGUE.

In the Garrison League up to the 3rd ult., H Company stand at the top of the Football with 7 points to their credit out of four matches played, and B at the top of the Hockey with 8 points out of five matches.

2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes.

THE BARRACKS, PONTEFRACT,
25th November, 1912.

THE have now increased our Detachments from Headquarters to three. On the 5th November, Lieutenant Barkworth and fifty men proceeded to Strensall, where we are finding a fatigue of two officers and 100 men to clear some ground there to increase the camping accommodation. This drain on our numbers, added to the calls of Indian Drafts and the furlough season, has denuded us of most of our men, even drummers having to lay down their drum-sticks for the time being and take to a spade.

As a result of the above, Company football matches have been at a standstill, though we have had several games of hockey. The detachment team has won both the matches it has played in the Garrison League.

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The opening meet of the Badsworth took place on the 2nd November, at Rogerthorpe Manor, about three miles from Barracks. We were very fortunate in having a beautiful day for it. Colonel Enderby, Captain Hart and Lieutenants Leverson and Williams were out from Sheffield, whilst this Detachment was represented by Major Turner and Lieutenants Trench and Barkworth. As usual at an opening meet the foot-people managed successfully to spoil sport on one or two occasions, but nevertheless we had quite a good day with a series of short gallops.

Lieutenant Foster has gone on three months' leave to the West Indies where we wish him all success with his tarpon fishing.

2nd Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes.

THE HUTMENTS, FLEETWOOD,
22nd November, 1912.

IT is regretted that the Fleetwood Detachment was not represented in last month's *Gazette*, owing to delay in completion of the Notes.

As so many of all ranks of the Regiment have served at Fleetwood, owing to the many changes that affect the Detachment, I feel that it might interest them to learn that the electric light has at last been installed, and that all portions of the Hutments are now bathed in glorious radiance from the authorized hours till 10.15 p.m. The delights of the occupants of the Hutments can be better imagined than described, especially after a weary wait intermixed with much longing for nearly three years.

During October we fired the Company Match and the Queen Victoria Cup Competition under the rules of the Army Rifle Association. The teams did not cover themselves with glory, nor did they fire up to expectation, absolutely failing at the last hole ; but with a little luck we hope to appear on the prize list in both events.

Our congratulations are due to the Regimental football team on defeating the Royal Scots Greys in the first round of the Army Cup. May they continue their victorious career.

Several football matches have been indulged in by the Detachment with varying success. Our team does not include many talented players in its ranks, but what they lack in finish and skill they make good with a little extra display of brute force.

Of late inspections have been all the rage, in fact the Detachment have had more than their share, and no one can now say that our "humble few" are lost and forgotten in the wilds of the Fleetwood ranges. The inspections have been carried out by the General Officer Commanding Western Command; the Brigadier-General, *i.e.*, Administration Western Command, the Colonel Commanding No. 3 District and two representatives from the Army Council– all on different days. With a greater gift of imagination, a better memory and a little more time your correspondent could no doubt add to the number.

The Sergeants have held a practice Dance at which many old and some new friends partook of their hospitality, and all spent a most enjoyable evening. Whist drives have been suggested, but many ask, is it safe to venture? For the present whist drives are receiving careful consideration, and no one knows what the future has in store.

Depôt Notes.

THE BARRACKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
22nd November, 1912.

HUNTING is now in full swing, the Morpeth holding their opening meet on the 5th inst. The restrictions owing to the foot and mouth disease being removed in the Tynedale country, they were also able to commence on the 18th inst. Sport with both packs has been quite up to the average during the cubbing a large number of cubs having been killed.

The leave season having commenced we are now greatly reduced in numbers, among the absentees being the Commanding Officer who is on long leave, and the Adjutant and who is attending a refresher course at Hythe.

We regret to report the dangerous illness of No. 4765 Sergeant H. Pitchforth, who is lying very ill in the Infectious Diseases Hospital, and wish him a speedy recovery.

The attached table shews the various positions of teams in the Garrison Football League:—

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals For.	Goals Against.	Points
36th Batt. R.F.A. ...	5	5	0	0	30	4	10
No. 1 Coy. 3rd N.F.	6	3	2	1	18	12	7
No. 1 Coy. 3rd D.L.I.	6	3	2	1	11	11	7
No. 2 Coy. 3rd N.F.	5	3	2	0	11	19	6
60th Batt. R.F.A. ...	6	2	3	1	10	15	5
No. 2 Coy. 3rd D.L.I.	4	0	2	2	8	11	2
27th Batt. R.F.A. ...	6	0	5	1	7	23	1

Certificates of Education as under have been awarded at examination held at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the 23rd ult.:—

2nd Class:—

No. 2206 Corporal F. Towler — No. 8166 Private W. Crosby

3rd Class:—

No. 3457 Private R. Beatty — No. 8154 Private G. Proctor
" 8182 " J. Taylor — " 8196 " E. Preston
No. 8184 Private J. Richardson

No. 7183 Drummer W. Randle was discharged on the 6th inst., and No. 7185 Drummer C. Bastand on the 13th inst., on termination of first period of engagement.

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No. 1159 Drummer H. Hobbs was permanently posted to 3rd Battalion from the 7th inst., and No. 8677 Drummer P. Hughes from the 14th inst.

No. 5205 Colour-Sergeant R. Simpson was attached for a tour of duty from the 2nd Battalion from the 12th inst., and Corporals Panter and O'Hara from the 16th inst.

No. 1195 Private W. Stephens was attached from 2nd Battalion from the 19th inst. for temporary duty as a tailor.

The undermentioned Non-Commissioned Officers were posted to the 2nd Battalion from the 16th inst.:—

No. 5045 Col.-Sergt. W. Taylor No. 1271 Corpl. H. Morris
No. 6161 Lance-Sergeant E. Kenning

Colour-Sergeants Fewster and Monteith, Permanent Staff 4th Battalion, were attached for a course of instruction from the 18th inst.

WILLIAM MURRAY, LATE NORTHUMBERLAND LIGHT INFANTRY MILITIA.

WILLIAM MURRAY.

WE regret to record the death, at the age of 85, at Alnwick, on the 30th October, of Mr. William Murray, late of the 54th Regiment, the 60th Rifles and the Northumberland Light Infantry Militia (now 3rd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers).

William Murray, who enlisted in the 54th Regiment at Mullingar on the 15th August, 1845, saw much and varied service in the Mediterranean, West Indies, Canada and East India.

Not the least interesting and exciting of his experiences came to him in the burning of the troopship *Sarah Sands* at sea in November, 1857, when carrying troops to India for the suppression of the Mutiny. On this occasion Murray played a gallant part in fighting the fire throughout the night and preventing it from reaching the ammunition. After serving through the campaign in Oude in 1858, for which he received the medal, he was in 1865 awarded the medal for Long Service and Good Conduct and two years later left the 54th, where he had held the rank of sergeant for twelve years. After three years in the 60th, Murray joined the Permanent Staff of the Northumberland Light Infantry Militia as a sergeant-instructor in 1871, afterwards becoming a colour-sergeant.

A somewhat tardy recognition of his conduct at the burning of the *Sarah Sands* came to him in August, 1875, in the shape of an increase of 6d. per diem. from the Royal Bounty and in 1887 he was discharged to pension with an exemplary character after 42 years' service.

Well known in Alnwick as a fine type of old soldier, Murray's funeral on the 2nd November was very largely attended. Military honours were rendered by a firing party of the 7th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers and a band containing members of the bands of the 3rd and 7th Battalions Northumberland Fusiliers and the Alnwick Town Band. The coffin, which was laid on a lorry drawn by two horses, was covered by a Union Jack, the under-bearers, Murray's comrades-in-arms when he was in the Service, being Quartermaster-Sergeant Pickford, Colour-Sergeant W. Munro, Colour-Sergeant G. Arkless and Band-Sergeant T. Moore, while among a large number following behind were Lieutenant-Colonel R. J. Roddam, commanding 3rd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, Sergeant J. Burnett and Drummer J. O'Brien, of the old Northumberland Light Infantry Militia, and many others, including representatives of the late Northumberland Volunteer Artillery. After the burial service had been impressively read by the Rev. Father Verity Young three volleys were fired over the grave and the "last post" was sounded by the drummers of the 7th Battalion.

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4th Battalion Notes.

HEXHAM,
22nd November, 1912.

APPROVAL has been given for the establishment of a new drill station at Whorlton near Newburn and steps are now being taken to raise a Section there which if successful will give a much needed increase to the Strength of the Battalion.

Second-Lieutenant Logan was attached to the Depôt Royal Berkshire Regiment from the 21st October to the 16th November, 1912, and obtained a satisfactory report on A.F.E. 535.

Sergeant-Major Fewster and Colour-Sergeant-Instructor Montieth are undergoing a Course of Instruction at our Depôt, Colour-Sergeant Instructor Parker will undergo a similar Course in December.

We very much regret to chronicle the approaching departure of Colour-Sergeant-Instructor Hitchiner who will be discharged to pension in January next. Sergeant Sykes of our 1st Battalion will relieve Colour-Sergeant Hitchiner.

5th Battalion Notes.

HEADQUARTERS, WALKER-ON-TYNE,
24th November, 1912.

THE shooting competition for the Miniature Challenge Cup and three money prizes took place on Saturday, the 26th ult., on the range of the 6th Battalion, kindly placed at our disposal by Lieutenant-Colonel Spain and officers, and resulted as follows:—Teams consisted of eight from each Company, seven shots at a decimal target, 25 yards. 1st, H Company, Cup and £1 10s.; 2nd, E Company, £1; 3rd, G Company, 10s.

WALLSEND DETACHMENT.

The Sergeants of this Detachment held their second dance of the season at the Drill Hall on Wednesday, the 13th inst., and although the weather was very severe, a large number of visitors were present and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Nearly all the Corps in the Newcastle district were represented, and were heartily welcome. These dances seem to be getting very popular, and it is hoped that the Territorial Force, and this Detachment in particular, will benefit thereby.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

The Annual Shoot for the Sergeants' Mess Clock and the Gatacre Rose Bowl and Vases took place at Headquarters on the 7th inst. Sergeant Swinburne proved to be the winner with the score of 62 plus 3 handicap, total 65. Sergeant Johnstone, Gosforth Detachment, scratch man, was second, score 64.

The following are the results of Headquarter matches in the Northumberland and Durham Amalgamated Sergeants' Miniature Rifle League Fixtures:—

Date.	Team.	Score.		Team.	Score
19-10-1912,	Walker, 5th N.F.	156	v.	Newburn, 4th N.F.	158
1-11-1912,	Engineers, N'cle.	162	v.	Walker, 5th N.F.	163
6-11-1912,	Walker, 5th N.F.	166	v.	Wallsend, 5th N.F.	162
15-11-1912,	9th D.L.I.	182	v.	Walker, 5th N.F.	166
21-11-1912,	Walker, 5th N.F.	168	v.	Tynemouth, R.G.A.	158

A series of Domino Matches has been arranged for the winter months, John Willie Smith, our worthy master cook, proved to be too good for the remainder and took 1st prize, Sergeant Rush, 2nd prize, and Sergeant-Major Linley, 3rd prize.

6th Battalion Notes.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
21st November, 1912.

WE are glad to see that Lieutenant-Colonel G. R. B. Spain has at last been gazetted and congratulate him upon his promotion.

Recruiting is, alas, almost at a standstill. We have recruited only thirteen since camp.

Winter training is in full swing. Two companies were mobilized on the 4th inst., the remainder will be called upon at short notice during the next few months.

A Regimental Exercise was held on 24th although originally limited to 12 Sergeants, 20 volunteered, which was highly satisfactory.

The Annual Sergeants' Mess Dinner will take place at the Collingwood Hotel, on Thursday, the 12th prox.

Our Sergeants are doing well in the Inter-Battalion shoots. There is keen competition for places in the team.

The Annual Supper and Smoker of the Corporals' Mess was held on Saturday, the 16th inst. Sergeant-Major Partington was in the chair, supported by Quartermaster-Sergeant J. Brown. There was a large attendance and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

A dance and whist drive was held in the Gymnasium on the 14th inst. It was a great success, 200 attending. Private Vernon won the first prize for men and Miss Cox for ladies.

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Editorial Notes.

26, Hans Crescent,
London, S.W.,
25th November, 1912.

THE Succession List of Officers has been corrected and brought up to date of the 1st October. Slips of paper bearing the corrections and additions and printed in a type and style which is suitable for pasting in existing copies of the Succession List can be obtained from Messrs. Grigg & Son, Dover, price 1/- per set. There are also in hand a number of copies of the "History of the Second Battalion," of which only three bound copies and one unbound copy have been sold. As 50 copies of this History have been prepared it is to be hoped that there will be a further demand for it. The History covers the entire period from the raising of the 2nd Battalion down to the 7th March, 1911, including, of course, the South African War and much other interesting matter. Copies are bound in a style uniform with the *St. George's Gazette*.

The time will soon arrive when arrangements must be made for the continuance or otherwise during next year of the article "1812 in the Peninsula" or rather "1813 in the Peninsula" as it would be next year. This article, which sometimes entails considerable research, has appeared each month during this year, and deals with what is perhaps the most famous period of the Regiment's history, during which it gained a reputation which exists to this day.

The Editor, however, is not quite sure that this article is popular with readers of the *St. George's Gazette*, and he, therefore, invites candid expressions of opinion from readers as to the suitability of the article for the pages of the *Gazette*.

The result of the Primary Fellowship Examination in Anatomy and Physiology held on the 7th, 8th, 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th inst. was announced on the 18th inst. in *The Morning Post*. 116 candidates presented themselves, of whom 22 per cent. were approved, and 78 per cent. rejected. Among the successful candidates is Alan Cecil Perry, son of Colour-Sergeant H. Perry, late Sergeant-Major, 1st Volunteer Battalion, and a nephew of Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. M. Allan. We have previously recorded successes of Mr. Alan Perry, and his latest achievement is all the more creditable as it was his first attempt and with only two years' service in the London Hospital.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY.

EXTRACTS FROM *ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE*, NOVEMBER 30th, 1887.

COLCHESTER, Wednesday, 30th November, 1887.—1st Battalion Notes.—We have nothing very particular to chronicle of our doings at Colchester this month. Several officers have gone away on leave and non-commissioned officers and men on furlough. We keep up our racquets in the first rate racquet court in camp; we have laid up our four-oar, the *Dragon*, in winter quarters, and hope to have many a fine cruise in her down the Colne next summer. Nothing has been done in the football line this month, but we hope to have some matches to notice in next issue.

The second Military Temperance Soirée of the season was (by kind permission of Major-General Sir Evelyn Wood, G.C.B., etc., Commanding the Eastern District) held in the Gymnasium School on the evening of the 11th inst. The company numbered between 100 and 150 and a very pleasant evening was spent. The string band of the 1st Battalion (68th) Durham Light Infantry supplied the music, and a full programme of dances and parlour games was gone through. Excellent Masters of the Ceremonies were found in Sergeant Weeks, 5th Fusiliers (for dancing) and Corporal McCullum, Commissariat and Transport Corps, and Sergeant Redman, 5th Fusiliers (for games); and the success of the programme is due to their untiring efforts. The refreshment department was, as usual, under the able management of Colour-Sergeant Staff Clerk Clouter, whose efforts have always proved of great value at these soirées.

A Fact.—As Lieutenant S— was visiting the breakfasts in camp one day this month a complaint was made to him regarding a loaf of bread, which had been drawn from the ration stand a quarter of an hour before. On the loaf being cut open *a litter of mice* was found inside. The mother must have taken her departure very recently, for the little ones were alive when found and the loaf was quite a fresh one.

Standing Camp and Depot (Dalhousie) Sports,
held on 28th and 29th September, 1887.

Dalhousie,
1st October, 1887.

Dear Mr. Editor,—I send you an account of our Garrison Sports, which thanks to our energetic Committee were a great success.

The Mile Race for the prize presented by Major-General Sir Hugh Gough created great excitement.

The Fusiliers won the Tug-of-War without much difficulty.

Major Gordon, of the 14th (President of the Committee, ran well for the Officers' Race, but was beaten at the post by *his subaltern* (!).

In the Menagerie Race the novelty of a porcupine was exhibited, Lieutenant Heard doing his best to make him go.

Mrs. Beamish presented the prizes.

"Chumba."

A Handy Medicine Chest for India.

General Remarks.—One or two general remarks as to hygiene in India may be added. The first advice I proffer to all Anglo-Indians is to keep their eye on their livers. The answer to the querry "Is life worth living" depends entirely on the liver. Note also that the liver is the second largest organ in the human body, being inferior in size only to the bump of self-esteem. Its greater dimensions therefore necessitate proportionately greater care and attention. Just a word as to mosquitos. The only cure for mosquito bites that has yet been discovered is not to get bitten. Bear in mind also the great danger of disease being inoculated by the stings of these insects. Mosquitos have been known thus to infect a person with prickly heat, irritation of the gall bladder, enlargement of the spleen and even dislocation of the choler bone. Lastly, always exercise the most scrupulous care that the water you drink is pure. For this reason invariably boil and filter it. Ice from careless making also frequently contains impurities. Therefore, always boil and filter it also.

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THE ABOR EXPEDITION.

Specially written for the "Snapper," by Captain E. F. G. Poole, D.S.O., East Yorkshire Regiment. Official War Correspondent with the Column.

(By permission of the Editor of the "Snapper.")

(Continued from page 136).

Fatigue and discomfort may wring from him the cry "It's the limit." But the limit is often exceeded. A sudden onslaught on the enemy may stir his blood, but more often he appears to be taking a lot of unnecessary precautions, and it is the wealth of precautions which precludes any possibility of disaster. In war nothing must be left to chance. The iron has entered into his soul and it does not occur to him to question any order given to him. So he goes on, from day to day, and such is active service—a test of discipline and training where both will be taxed to the uttermost. Only a high standard of training can cope with every eventuality.

FURTHER CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY. SIX ABORS KILLED.

21st November.

Parties were sent out to-day in search of the enemy. Two convoys arrived safely here. They had experienced great difficulty in negotiating the sharp descent of the Egar gorge.

A party of forty men of the 8th Gurkhas under Major Wilson has just returned, having surprised a party of the enemy about four miles from here. In the fight which ensued, six of the enemy were killed. One was armed with a Tibet gun and the rest were in fighting garb, cane helmets and sago palm coats, and were carrying quivers full of poisoned arrows. A close scrutiny of these arrows reveals many points of interest. They are apparently of two kinds, those intended for men and big game and those intended for birds. The former are tipped with iron heads and crescent shaped points, the barb on each side being short with none of the series of jagged hooks common to the African poisoned arrows. The poison is aconite root or croton berry, made into a paste and smeared on the arrow head, which is lightly secured to the shaft by sago palm twine. The principle of this arrow seems to be that it should be propelled with great force forward into the victim and that the loosely secured arrow head should remain there doing its deadly work, even though the shaft can be pulled out. In the case of big game killed by the central action of a poisoned arrow discharged by a practised hand no poison would spread to the body. The bird-killing arrow is a plain pointed bamboo shaft, also poisoned. Both varieties are feathered with dry leaves and were discharged by the enemy during the attack on the stockade on the 19th.

CAPTURE OF THE STOCKADE.

BIVOUAC OF EDAR RIVER, *23rd November.*

A long and tiring day with a most successful ending.

The striking force, minus three Companies of the 8th Gurkhas left Old Renging at 6.15 on the 19th. The advance guard had started earlier with the additional assurance of the work of search parties sent out yesterday. The column marched unopposed to the limit of the made road, about four miles. The Gurkha scouts reported that one of Major Wilson's war dogs gave warning of the presence of the enemy's scouts before they were seen by the Nagas who were on ahead. General Bower and his staff made a slight detour in order to get a glimpse of the position of Rotung which was indicated by one of the survivors of Mr. Williamson's party who is accompanying the column as guide. Smoke was seen in the direction of Rotung. Upon rejoining the main column the steep descent to the Lelek river began. This had already been reconnoitred as I have stated, but a curious Abor machan was discovered a forked tree used as a seat with a path leading up to it, a place in the tree to shoot comfortable. A track was evidently prepared behind through a dense bamboo thicket. Some arrow shavings showed the haunt of one of our enemies. The departure from Old Renging was much welcomed by the troops upon whom the hardships are beginning to tell somewhat, as shown by the number suffering from fever owing to the recent heavy rain. Our information tended to show that a stockade might be encountered between the Lelek river and Rotung. The ascent beyond the Lelek then began until a razor backed rock was reached after which one of the steepest descents I have ever made was undertaken. Those unskilled in hill climbing had to resort to the use of hands. A thick bamboo grove was at last reached. A somewhat unnatural interlacing of boughs seemed to point to barricades on the part of the Abors, more especially as further on scattered kanjees, their bamboo stakes were lying about. The scene was wild and beautiful. Deep down the gorge we wound through giant wild plantain trees along the banks of a mountain stream singing its song of life as it dashed over the crimson rocks. All around us towered precipitous verdure clad cliffs. A sign of the serpent in this Eden was a small barricade made by the enemy across the stream. This brushed aside, we arrived at 3 p.m. at a fairly open space in the gorge which at a pinch would make a bivouac for the force. The laden coolies would find the steep descent trying and lengthy, and night fell before we found another camping ground. But first remember our information and then ponder upon our tactical position, which I can only liken to a "bear pit," an ugly spot, a restricted bivouac; possible stone shoot, pit falls and stockades all around us.

It is obvious that unless we cleared the ground in our immediate vicinity and picqueted the heights above we might spend a night disturbed by the attention of the Abors and their arrows.

A reconnoitring party of the 8th Gurkhas moved forward, followed by General Bower and his orderly officer, Captain Smithers; with him were also Captain Hore, Intelligence Officer, and Captain Beecher, Provost-Marshal. The reconnoitring party was under the command of Lieutenant Buckland. They reported the presence of a stockade near, which was apparently unoccupied. Suddenly a shot rang out from this stockade and Dal Bahadur, one of the survivors of Mr. Williamson's party, was hit in the shoulder. Simultaneously an enormous rock shoot was discharged and thundered down the gorge, just missing the British officers and their party. Fire was immediately opened at the stockade from which showers of arrows came. With the rattle of musketry were blended the crash of six more stone shoots discharged from the stockade one after another and the defiant shout of the Abors. Both officers and men narrowly escaped injuries. Captain Beecher received a heavy stone on his helmet and was knocked down, sustaining slight abrasions.

Let us return to the bivouac which was being cleared. Arrows fell amongst the party working. The first shot, the distant rumble of the falling of rock shoots and the peals of musketry sent everyone to their alarm posts, the Naga coolies taking up their stand near a rock. The wounded Dal Bahadur walked into camp accompanied by two Gurkhas and reported the presence of the stockade. Reinforcements were at once sent up the hill from the camp. With them was Major Hutchinson, Staff Officer, Captain Melville, the Senior Medical Officer, accompanied the party, and I succeeded in joining them. We found General Bower and his staff with a party of Gurkhas some thirty yards from the stockade. Another party of the 8th Gurkhas under Lieutenants Kennedy and Buckland had been sent up the hill to try and outflank the stockade. Shots were being fired at the Abors in the stockade who were uttering shouts of defiance and discharging flights of arrows. Amidst the swish of these was heard the telephone at work with the request to the bivouac "send up the seven-pounder gun, Caster and Pollux, the two motor guns and all the men available at once." At this point there seemed to be rifle firing inside the stockade, and shortly afterwards we heard the voice of Lieutenant Kennedy, who shouted that he and his party were in the stockade. Let us trace their movements. By a stiffish

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climb they succeeded in getting under the flanking stockade which I will describe in due course. Four stone shoots were discharged at them one after another. One Gurkha rifleman was swept off the path but was uninjured. At times unable to fire at the enemy, who were also firing arrows at them, little by little they worked their way up and outflanked the enemy's stockade. Lieutenant Buckland first got in and eventually he and Lieutenant Kennedy with one Gurkha Subadar and six Sepoys encountered a party of Abors evidently in flight up the hill. Two were clad in khaki coats probably taken from the murdered followers of Mr. Williamson. These were at first mistaken for Sepoys moving through the thicket and escaped. Two were killed. One was in close grip with the Gurkha officer when Lieutenant Kennedy shot him with his revolver. With the flight of the Abors the stockade was taken after an hour's fight and everybody near streamed in to see it. Let me describe it in detail. On a steep hill above a gorge, with a path leading through a bamboo thicket, was the first stockade, a dummy stockade I may call it, somewhat lightly constructed, but intended to deceive the attacker and detain him under the close and accurate fire of the defenders in the main stockade at which we now arrived. This built with the right flank resting on an inaccessable height was most cunningly contrived in a commanding position with every advantage taken of the shape of the ground. Sleeping accommodation for about fifty was found in the stockade, at which was a labyrinth of obstacles. By means of arrows and stone shoots cross, flanking, enfilade and frontal fire could be directed against the attackers. A flanking bastion forty yards from the main stockade was furnished with a rock shoot. Should the attacker effect an entrance into the stockade stone shoots and arrows would be his portion. Even after the stockade had been taken it was difficult to make our way through the network of pit falls, Machicoulis galleries, whispering galleries and traverses. One scrambled round stone shoots rendered innocuous by the absence of defenders. One of these rock shoots attracted our attention. Formed of the walls of the stockade with rocks piled up against them it was kept in its position by bark ropes lashed to a tree. One slash of a dao and down would crash the whole concern into the precipice below. By the appearance of the logs I should say that the stockade had been made some months—that is to say just after the outrage on Mr. Williamson's party, when the military police force came to Balek.

The topmost bastion of the stockade was picqueted before nightfall. The seven-pounder being placed in position there. In the dark those who had taken part in the capture of the stockade climbed down the hill reaching the crowded bivouac about 6 p.m. There had been no time to make shelters. The whole force, hungry and weary, appeased their hunger, and flung themselves down to rest. They have been twelve hours incessantly under arms.

(To be continued).

1812 IN THE PENINSULA.

NOVEMBER.

(Continued from page 138.)

The movements of the French army under Soult, which was following Hill's corps from Madrid, were at first characterised by great caution, which was perhaps accentuated by a rumour that three British Divisions under Lord Wellington were close at hand. But there was an additional reason for this caution, viz., that Soult's force was not collected and the army of the centre under King Joseph was still at some distance. Hill's corps, which included the 3rd, 4th and Light Divisions had, therefore, a respite from any close pursuit and were no doubt enabled to carry out Lord Wellington's instructions contained in a despatch from Rueda, dated 3rd November, viz., that if he (Hill) was pressed he should move upon Fontiveros. "If you should move from the Adaja take care that all our stores and people (including my hounds at Arevalo) move off."[1]

Soult, however, started in hot pursuit of the British corps under Hill on the 3rd November, the day on which King Joseph entered Madrid, and next day, Souham, commanding the French army, which was following the British force after the abandonment of the siege of Burgos, repaired, unexpectedly, the bridge of Toro over the Douro, and Lord Wellington's army was once more in a position of some danger. The British Commander-in-Chief had hoped to be able to combine his force with Hill's and fall on Soult's army, but this renewed French activity on the north compelled the abandonment of the project, and while Hill was directed to move straight on Alba de Tormes with, no doubt, the hounds, Lord Wellington's army on the 6th November fell back on the heights of San Christoval near Salamanca. Hill reached Alba on the 7th, and effected a junction with Lord Wellington, who, in a letter wrote that he had got clear in a handsome manner of the worst scrape he was ever in.[2]

This retirement was at once followed up by the French: their armies of Portugal, of the Centre and of the South united on the 8th November, and by the 10th of the month nearly 100,000 Frenchmen were assembled close to the spot where Marmont had been defeated some three or four months before.[3] Lord Wellington was anxious to maintain permanently the line of the Tormes, although uncertain of the enemy's numbers, and was ready to be and even desirous of being, attacked.

His army had retreated some 200 miles, his two corps, particularly that of the north, were in want of rest, for they had been in the field and almost continually marching since January, their clothes and equipment were much worn and a period in cantonments was very desirable.[4] The line of the Tormes, however, and a rest for the British troops did not coincide at all with the French ideas. King Joseph was in favour of instant attack and was anxious to wipe out the stain of the defeat at Salamanca, but in a council of war Soult's caution prevailed and his advice to cross the Tormes seven miles above Alba and threaten the British flank and rear was adopted.

But several days had passed ere this move was decided on. Lord Wellington, while anxious to fight again on the scene of his former victory, had made preparations for a further retreat; his sick were sent to the rear, provision depôts were formed on the line between Ciudad Rodrigo and Salamanca, surplus ammunition in Salamanca was destroyed daily by small explosions[5] and large stores of clothing, accoutrements, etc., handed over to the Spanish troops, who seem to have lost no time in turning them into ready money.

Soult's movement began on the 14th November, that is to say, five or six days after the French armies had arrived, in presence of the Allies. For some reason this crossing of the Tormes was unopposed by the Allies and Soult posted himself in a strong position. He was followed by Souham, who ranged his men on Soult's right flank, while the Allies fell back to their old position about the Arapiles. On the following day the hope of seizing the Allies' line of retreat along the Ciudad Rodrigo road once again acted as a magnet and drew on the French army. But unlike Marmont at Salamanca, Soult moved at a greater distance from his enemy, and owing to the heavy rains his progress was very slow. Lord Wellington, apprised now of the numbers opposed to him and realising that for the moment the game was up, decided at once on retreat. Taking advantage of a heavy fog, he moved his army in three columns unmolested right round Soult's left flank,[6] and thus began the third and last lap of the retreat from Burgos, which was to undo all the successes of the campaign and to cost the British army some 7,000 men.

Hitherto while the rain had descended in torrents and caused the usual discomfort, the French had not pressed the

1 Despatches.
2 Maxwell.
3 Napier.
4 Despatches.
5 Napier.
6 Maxwell.

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pursuit to the point of inconvenience, at all events against Hill's corps. Yet disaster had occurred during the first day's march from Madrid, when some men of the 4th Division forming part of the rearguard broke loose, plundered some houses and got drunk, while about half of them fell into the hands of the French. The remainder of this retreat to Alba passed off without further serious irregularity, yet there was much discontent among the veteran troops with the arrangements of staff officers. Work in connection with the sick and the transport seems to have given very little satisfaction to anyone and the arrangements regarding the supply and issue of rations even at this early stage of the retreat seem to have been wanting in method.

By the night of the 15th November the Allies had reached the Salmusa river, where they halted, being now in rear of the French host which a few hours before had been facing them. Such a movement as this was only possible because while the Allies used the high roads, the French moving through the fields and along the bye-ways found them nearly impassable as the result of torrential rain; this circumstance and a certain hesitancy on the part of the French commander contributed not a little to the success of what can only be considered a very bold manœuvre.

Early on the 16th November the retreat was resumed; the Light Division and the cavalry formed the rearguard and the French followed in close pursuit. The weather became steadily worse and the rain fell in torrents without intermission, while roads became quagmires and streams became foaming torrents scarcely fordable by the soaked and starving soldiers. To such an extent had the streams risen that fords which, on the advance, were only ankle-deep were now breast-high and the men were obliged to carry their ammunition boxes strapped on their shoulders when passing them.[7] Officers and men alike were exposed to the elements; neither had anything but the clothes they wore, and some even were without boots; while the baggage seemed to have disappeared and was not met with again until Ciudad Rodrigo was reached. During this day's march, which was only about twelve miles, the disorder and disorganization reached its climax. The route lay through a country where big herds of pigs roamed at large. The sight was too much for the hungry troops, who left the ranks in hundreds and opened such a "rolling musketry" on the pigs as to lead to the belief that the army was heavily engaged with the French. Efforts to stop the firing even to the extent of summarily hanging two offenders failed and only night brought a cessation of the trouble, which called forth a stern General Order from Lord Wellington condemning "the shameful and unmilitary practice" of shooting pigs close to the camp and line of march; so close in fact that two Dragoons were shot.[8]

The French did not, however, take advantage of the confusion of the Allies' retreat, but contented themselves with picking up the stragglers, of whom they secured some 2,000.

The Allies bivouacked this night behind the Matilla stream; it was midnight ere the camp kettles or the rations reached the troops and the incessant rain scarcely allowed a fire to be kept alight. Remembering the retreat to Corunna, Lord Wellington kept his army away from villages and all temptations in the way of liquor; firewood was none too plentiful, and, in the absence of doors and door posts, invariably sodden. There was no cover for anyone, and all ranks bivouacked in the pouring rain.

Four a.m. next day saw the Allies again in retreat and gaining by this early move a few miles start of their pursuers. But before long the French cavalry were on their heels and the rearguard was obliged to face about and check them along the line of the Huebra, where a considerable combat ensued, in which the Light Division was engaged with the 3rd Division in support. Grattan relates that on this day, when after holding their ground for several hours the 3rd Division were about to retire, a further outbreak of firing occurred and the Division then put outposts and bivouacked in the mud. During the night a mad rush of pigs went through the bivouacs upsetting the piles of arms. The Division at once stood to arms in the darkness and a Portuguese regiment opened fire in all directions. The pigs seem to have escaped loss, though the General's orderly was shot. On the 18th November the march continued, beginning, as usual, in the darkness of the small hours; the continuous rain had flooded the main road about a mile in rear of the bivouacs and arrangements were made for another road to be used. In the darkness, however, things went wrong, the troops kept to the main road and were, naturally, held up by the floods; much confusion and delay ensued, until Lord Wellington, who had been waiting on the road which should have been taken, arrived on the spot and led the troops out of the difficulty.

The retreat was now through marshy country which still further exhausted the army, and the straggling and pig-shooting broke out again; neither age nor sex seems to have been spared and the herds were decimated. But this day represented the darkest hour before the dawn, for towards the evening the rain ceased and for once the army bivouacked in comparative dryness on the hills near Ciudad Rodrigo, into the villages near which place the army marched the next day.

(To be continued).

7 Grattan.
8 Supplementary Despatches.

NORTH COUNTRY YARNS.

THE SUSPICIOUS KIPPER.

A doctor paid a professional visit to a house in the slums of Newcastle the other morning, and found the children quarrelling. It appeared that there were two kippers for breakfast, and each of the children desired the other to have the large one. "Ye tyek th' big 'un, Mary Ellen," said the boy earnestly. "Eat it yorsel'," replied the maiden. The doctor had a kind heart, and his eyes moistened at the sight. "Take the large one, my dear," he said to the girl; "avail yourself of your brother's generosity." The child regarded the medical man for a moment in wide eyed astonishment and then replied: "Ne fear; the big 'un's stinkin'!"

FINDING A LOST DOG.

A pitman was in a very sad way through having lost his dog; and seeing a bill in a shop window announcing that two dogs had been found and could be seen at a local police court, he thought he would go and see if one of the dogs was his. "Now, I suppose," said a police officer as he brought the two dogs into the room, "you can swear to your dog." "Whaat can aa de?" shouted the pitman as one of the dogs sprang towards him, barking and frisking. "Can aa swear te ma dog? Wey, noo, aa think aa can, and mony a time aa hev, hevven aa, Pincher, hinnie?"

NO REPAIRS.

Two persons at a local town were discussing the arrangements the other day for the funeral of a departed relative, when the debate not unnaturally turned upon the seemingly high price to be paid for the coffin. "How comes it," they asked of an undertaker friend, "that you tradesmen charge so extraordinarily high for an ordinary coffin?" "Wey, ye see," he replied, "we hev to myek aall wor profit at once; thor's ne repairs on them jobs!"

QUITE EASY.

At a small colliery village school not far from Newcastle a conjuror was showing the children some simple tricks. Calling a small boy to the front he started taking eggs from his pockets, coats, sleeves, etc. After doing so a number of times he remarked:—"There now, Tommy, can your father get eggs without hens?" "Wey aye," says the little one, quite bold. "Oh," asked the astonished gentleman, "how?" "Wey, man, he keeps ducks!" was the simple rejoinder.

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St. George's Gazette.

A REGIMENTAL PAPER FOR THE "OLD AND BOLD."

"Quo fata vocant."

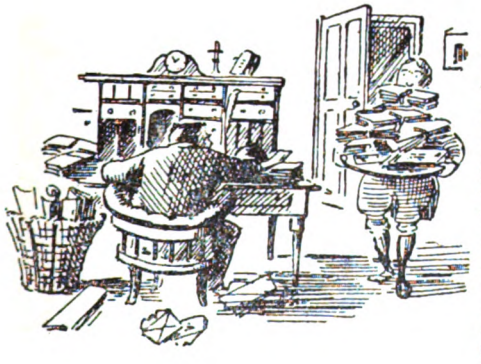
No. 360.] **Tuesday, 31st December, 1912.** **[Vol. XXX.**

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
The Editor's Corner	153	4th Battalion Notes...	164
Our Contemporaries	153	5th Battalion Notes...	164
Subscriptions Received	153	6th Battalion Notes	165
Birth, Marriage and Deaths ...	153	7th Battalion Notes...	165
A Retrospect of 1912	154	Additions to the Succession List of Officers...	165
Extracts from *London Gazette*...	156	Editorial Notes	166
Hexpert Criticism (Poetry) ...	156	Letter to the Editor	167
Obituary—The late Mr. R. Power	157	Answers to Correspondents ...	167
1st Battalion Notes	158	Twenty-Five Years Ago To-Day	167
A Fusilier Speaks (Poetry) ...	159	The Gun	168
2nd Battalion Notes	160	With an Indian Draft	169
2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes	162	In the Sleeping Express	170
2nd Battalion (Fleetwood) Detachment Notes...	163	1812 in the Peninsula (*concluded*)	171
Depôt Notes	163	The Digest of Service (*continued from April, 1912*) Supplement	
3rd Battalion Notes	164	Advertisements i. to viii. and Cover.	

THE EDITOR'S CORNER.

26, HANS CRESCENT,
LONDON, S.W.,
31st December, 1912.



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Subscriptions should be sent to the Editor; they will be duly notified in the next number of the paper after the remittances have been received.

Subscriptions are due in advance; in the event of a subscription not being paid when due, a bill will be sent (this, however, will not be done in the case of Officers serving with their Battalions, their subscriptions being paid by the Mess President yearly); should a subscription not be paid within two months in the case of a subscriber at home, or three months in the case of a subscriber abroad, after such bill is sent out, it will be assumed that no more copies of the paper are wanted. The name will then be taken off the books.

It is particularly requested that all contributions intended for insertion be sent so as to reach the Editor NOT LATER than the 25th of each month, in order to allow of punctual publication, and that contributions be written on ONE SIDE only of the paper.

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All communications to be sent direct to the Editor.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of copies of the following papers:—

"The Army Service Corps Journal"
"Military Mail"
"The Queen's Own Gazette"
"The Globe and Laurel"
"The XXX."
"The Antelope"
"The Tiger and the Rose"
"The Black Horse Gazette"
"The Hampshire Regimental [Journal"
"The Eagle"
"The Regiment"
"The London Scottish Gazette"
"The China Dragon"
"The Suffolk Regimental Gazette"
"The Green Tiger"
"The Acorn"
"The White Lancer"
"The Ranger"
"The Dragon"
"The Thin Red Line"
"The Indian Volunteer Record and Military News"
"The Sapper"
"The Aldershot News"
"The Green Howards' Gazette"
"The XI. Hussar Journal"
"The A.O.C. Gazette"
"The 79th News"
"The Dorset Regimental Journal"
"The Planters' and Commercial Gazette"
"The Snapper"
"The R.M.A. Magazine"
"The Faugh-a-Ballagh"
"The Gordonian"
"Argyllshire Highlanders Regimental News"
"Highland Light Infantry Chronicle"

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Colonel Hart-Dyke ...	,, 31/12/13	Sergeant-Major Wooll ...	,, 28/ 2/14
Mr. R. W. Allen	,, 31/12/13	and Bound Volume	
General Toppin	,, 31/12/13	Mr. W. Smith	*Gazettes*
Mr. Dixon	,, 31/12/13	Mr. McKim	Bound Volume
and donation		Sergeant Challoner ...	1 *Gazette*
Colonel Rowland, C.B. ...	,, 31/12/13	P.R.I., 2nd Battalion	
J. B. Kemeys-Tynte, Esq.	,, 31/12/13	Depôt	
Colour-Sergeant Sleath	,, 31/12/13	P.R.I., 1st Battalion	
Mr. J. Byrnes	,, 31/12/13	Mr. J. Dalzell, September Advts.	

BIRTH.

HAYWARD.—On the 5th ult., at Pontefract, the wife of No. 8443 Sergeant S. Hayward, 2nd Battalion, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

DAVIDSON—TIPPETTS.—On the 24th October, at Lahore, India, by the Bishop of Lahore, John Davidson, Indian Finance Department, son of the late General Alexander Davidson, R.E., to Lilian Mary, daughter of the late Surgeon-Major-General A. M. Tippetts, A.M.S.

DEATHS.

ARCHER.—On the 29th October, at Port Said, No. 27 Private F. Archer, 1st Battalion.

HONE.—On the 16th ult., at Mhow, India, Edith Hone, daughter of No. 4898 Sergeant-Drummer C. Hone, 1st Battalion, aged 7 years.

SIMS.—On the 3rd ult., at sea, on board R.I.M.S. *Dufferin*, No. 2315 Private J. Sims, 1st Battalion.

IN MEMORIAM.

VAUGHAN.—In loving memory of John Vaughan, late Northumberland Fusiliers, who passed away 2nd January, 1909.—K.V.

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A RETROSPECT OF 1912.

THE clash of arms in Turkey has satisfied the greed of the newspaper editor in his untiring hunt for copy. On the annals of the Balkan States **1912** will be imprinted in blood-red figures. The Spectre of War, stirring up a wholesale conflagration in Europe, will give good cause to the diplomats of the Great Powers to look back on the passing year as one full of memorable events. No host of striking episodes, however, to be crowded into two columns of print, confront the writer of a regimental retrospect. His task is rather one of justifying the appearance in the *Gazette* of the narrative, which has apparently become a hardy annual.

It would indeed be hard to recall a year so unproductive as 1912 in events of regimental importance. Under these circumstances we may perhaps be excused for beginning the story with the closing weeks of 1911, for the Retrospect of that date only touched the fringe of an epoch-making event—in which it was the good fortune of the 1st Battalion to play no inconsiderable part—namely, the Coronation Durbar of 1911.

Leaving the Murree Hills early in November of last year, they reached the camp at Delhi after halting for a fortnight *en route* at Rawal Pindi. A somewhat irksome fortnight of rehearsals was succeeded by ten days of gorgeous ceremonies, of which no member of the 1st Battalion will probably see the like again. A King's Guard, three Guards of Honour to His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor, and a Guard of Honour to His Excellency the Viceroy were furnished by the FIFTH. Amongst surroundings of unparalleled Oriental splendour His Majesty presented new colours to the Battalion, and, before the King and Queen left the Durbar, the officers were commanded to the Royal Garden Party in Delhi Fort. Modern science, however, has afforded some solace to the less fortunate ones at home, in the form of Kinemacolor pictures of the Durbar, while the graphic account by "Sandy" in the pages of the *Gazette* has given us a vivid mental picture of the stately scenes, which culminated in His Majesty's proclamation to the peoples of India. Eight officers, the Sergeant-Major, Bandmaster, and 97 N.C.O.'s and men were awarded the Indian Durbar Medal.

Under the firm impression that they were bound for Bombay, the Battalion moved in January to Deolali, but it is the unexpected which happens in peace soldiering hardly less than in war. The move to Bombay was cancelled. After spending eight weeks at Deolali, they took up their quarters in Mhow, detaching a company to Indore.

The year 1912 is markworthy as being the centenary of no less than three famous Peninsular achievements recorded on the colours of the Regiment—namely, the capture of Ciudad Rodrigo, the storming and capture of Badajoz and the glorious victory of Salamanca. Badajoz Day was duly commemorated on the 6th April, in the 2nd Battalion, by a special parade.

Mhow and Sheffield, with their contrasts of temperature, necessitated a different programme for the usual celebrations on St. George's Day, but both breakfast in the heat of Mhow and luncheon in the smoke of Sheffield were attended by large numbers of guests. Time and space considerations unfortunately obliged most of the old officers of the Regiment to content themselves with being present in spirit rather than in person at the Trooping of the Colours, a fact which always detracts in no small measure from the enjoyment of both past and present on such an occasion.

The 2nd Battalion will not altogether cherish the memory of a station in the centre of our "great industries," as these words are synonymous with "*strike areas.*" In the middle of March the coal strike not only interfered with hunting and leave, but also prevented the Regimental Point-to-Point from being held this year. The regimental football team have legitimate cause for "grousing" at the strikers. They had succeeded in reaching the semi-final stage of the Hatchard Cup League, after contesting 19 matches. Their chances of heading the list were looking "rosy," but they missed matches while confined to barracks and "held in readiness." In consequence of this the league committee disqualified them from further competition. Such is gratitude. When their shops are being looted, and the hooligan on the tiles is scoring "outers" with ginger-beer bottles, these self-respecting gentlemen will outdo one another in welcoming the sudden appearance of the football team from round the corner of the street. 'Twas ever thus—but better far expressed in verse by Kipling. No sooner had the writer begun his present task than he was warned to pack his valise and be ready to start at half-an-hour's notice with 200 men (including the band) for a probable seat of disturbance on the North-Eastern Railway. Until the Home Secretary has appeased the staunch supporters of engine-driver Knox, it is quite possible that the 2nd Battalion may spend an unconventional Christmas in the backyard of a gasworks, or under the cheerless shelter of a North-Eastern or Midland Railway signal box.

Having passed the greater part of May and June at Totley in ball-firing by half-battalions, the 2nd Battalion went under canvas in Wales for six weeks to carry out Brigade Training. The question whether a soaking camp on a sea of mud in "the land of our fathers" is preferable, at that time of year, to a Mhow Cantonment under the effects of a broken monsoon is suggested as a suitable problem for appreciation during the winter training season.

November brought a welcome surprise to those in Sheffield. Headquarters and four Companies were to leave almost immediately, and join their detachment of 100 diggers at Strensall Camp. This news, however, proved too good to be true, and no move in that direction is now expected to take place before next spring. In the

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meantime, the Battalion is philosophically enduring the hundred and one disadvantages of being divided into four permanent detachments. The administrative puzzle "How to carry on?" presents itself daily at Headquarters for solution. Even the drums are no longer drumming but digging, and the Band have their packs ready for going on strike duty. Despite all this, the football team are maintaining their reputation. They have disposed of the Scots Greys and the 80th Regiment in two successive rounds of the Army Cup, in the Hatchard League they stand third, and have successfully contested four qualifying rounds in the English Amateur Cup.

There seems to be no falling off in the interest shown throughout the Regiment in the noble art of self defence. In the 1st Battalion, a team was awarded a silver cup as special prize at Jubbulpore; Privates Banks, Vines and Hyde won competitions at Deolali; Lance-Corporal Smith, Privates Stone, Maddison, Forrest and Mortimer have distinguished themselves more than once at Mhow; and Captain Selby won the boxing honours in the officers' featherweights at the Delhi Durbar. During their sojourn in Wales, the 2nd Battalion representatives won the middleweight, novices' middleweight and lightweight competitions open to the 18th Infantry Brigade, while Private Furness at the Depôt was the winner of a 9st. competition.

Privates Forrest and Leith of the 2nd Battalion displayed their running powers with great success in both long and short distance races in the open events of outside athletic meetings during the year, following each other to victory in excellent times on two occasions.

At the Northern Command Rifle Meeting, the 2nd Battalion machine-gun section, under the command of Sergeant Poole, took first prize. Private Hebron also distinguished himself at billiards. He reached the 10th round of the Army Billiard Tournament, after winning the championship of the Northern Command.

Mr. Nicholls reached the 5th round of the Amateur Golf Championship, trampling heavily *en route* on a Yankee opponent, who is reported to be still conscious of a distinct crushing sensation. Our regimental champion was, unfortunately, then knocked out by the greatest of English amateurs. Playing in three successive matches for the Army, Nicholls defeated all his opponents, though his side was only once successful.

The regimental cricket season of the 2nd Battalion was confined, owing to circumstances, to one somewhat poor display, but better conditions favoured the 1st Battalion. Out of ten matches they won six, the batting honours resting easily with Bandsman Parrant and Lance-Corporal Yendall, while Parrant and Eaton were the most successful "trundlers." Surely the scorer's name should be recorded in the *Gazette* when the opposing side consists of Parsi talent, seeing that he has to surmount even greater difficulties than the players themselves. From the accounts it would appear, at any rate, that the Parsi bowler is as tricky as his name.

The 1st Battalion polo team covered themselves with glory in the Handicap Tournament at Mhow, but survived only as far as the semi-final round in the Barton Cup at Jubbulpore. We presume the Rajah of Dhar, since meeting the polo team of the FIFTH, has sold his ponies and taken up ping-pong.

Tiger-shooting, pig-sticking, and expeditions to Kashmir have attracted several enthusiasts, but, with the exception of an interesting account of a "Trip to Kashmir" by one of the sergeants, the meagre accounts lead one to believe that sport might have been better. Narratives of any hunt after wild beasts invariably improve by being "bottled up" for a few months or years, so we must look forward to hearing some thrilling accounts when the 1st Battalion comes home.

The officers of the 2nd Battalion have taken full advantage, between the intervals of strike alarms and frost, of hunting with four packs from either Pontefract or Sheffield. Nine or ten of them have been out regularly, principally with the Badsworth and the Grove, and have had some right good gallops.

The transfer of Captain Leslie to the Cavalry has deprived the Regiment of an able officer, good polo player, and all-round sportsman. We feel sure that his capacity and keenness will bring him to the front, when opportunity occurs, whether he be horse or foot soldier, and that future contributions from his ready pen will always find a welcome among readers of the *Gazette*. The 2nd Battalion has lost, this year, the services of two especially valuable non-commissioned officers in Drum-Major Pallister and Sergeant Burnell. The former joined the Regiment as Drum-Major 12½ years ago, the latter was Mess-Sergeant in the 2nd Battalion for over nine years. Both, in their respective and very different spheres of action —one always on parade, the other never on parade—did yeoman service. They have deserved well of the Regiment, and carry with them into civil life the good wishes of all those with whom, and under whom, they served. Sergeant Beckingham has also left the FIFTH after twelve years' service, during which he displayed considerable talent as a cricketer in the team of all four Battalions—a unique record indeed.

Since the beginning of the year the marriages have taken place of at least seven past and present officers of the Regiment, including those of three former commanding officers, and Major James Bett has celebrated his silver wedding.

The year has seen considerable changes among the company commanders of both Battalions, and belated but welcome promotion for several subalterns in consequence of five officers being given appointments. Major Shoubridge has been gazetted as General Staff Officer to a Territorial Division, Captain Festing has been given the General Staff Musketry Appointment of the Aldershot Command, Captain Wreford Brown has gone to Sandhurst to instruct the "young idea," and Captains Archer and Clifford have taken Territorial and Indian Volunteer adjutancies respectively. There still remain, however,

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eleven subalterns of over eleven years' service who are not too happy about their prospects. Brigadier-General Wilkinson has been promoted Major-General at the early age of 47. Colonel Heard has reached substantive rank, and been appointed to 1st Grade General Staff while employed as Chief of the General Staff in New Zealand.

Five veterans, full of years and honour, none with less than three score and ten, and four of them with much nearer four score years and ten, have gone to their last rest. Lieutenant-General Roberts, C.B., who had retired after 44 years' service, commanded the 1st Battalion for 14 years. He served throughout the Crimea, Indian Mutiny and Afghan War, and has left behind him an example of strenuous activity and soldierly qualities, which could hardly be surpassed. Major-General Cooke, who learnt his early soldiering in the FIFTH from 1862 to 1866, took part in the Zulu War, was subsequently A.A.G. in Bengal, and retired after 42 years' service. Alfred Nelson, another Mutiny veteran, took part in the capture of the Alumbagh and the Relief of the Residency, retiring after 24 years' service. Richard Power, whose two sons have also served in the FIFTH, enlisted 65 years ago, fought in the Mutiny, and, on leaving the Regiment after 21 years' service, was awarded the Regimental Order of Merit of the 1st Class. He had the distinction of being in the Government service for over half a century, and continued to take, up to the time of his death, the keenest interest in his old Regiment. William Murray, formerly Colour-Sergeant in the 3rd (Militia) Battalion, had, on retirement, 42 years' service and an exemplary character to his credit. He had originally been in the 54th and 60th Regiments, taken part in the Indian Mutiny, and was one of the heroes on the burning troopship, *Sarah Sands*, in 1857.

A most pleasing feature of this year's *Gazette* has been the return to activity of our regimental artist. To many of us it must recall old days, when we recognise the illustrations of "Tickletoby" as each successive *Gazette* comes along. To those also it must be evident that, as the years roll on, his pencil is ever more deftly handled and with a more and more finished touch. As regards the literary contributions this year, the descriptive talent of H.R.S. and the keen humour of "The Sprouter" have given us a clear insight into both the sublime and the ridiculous side of the Delhi Concentration Camp. Other excellent efforts by H.R.S. are the story of "The Zakka" and a poetical dualogue. Mr. Wallace's interesting recollections, which have appeared in thirteen numbers of the *Gazette* (beginning in June 1911) have recalled familiar scenes to many hundreds of past and present members of the Regiment. He must have had hard work in reproducing so much detail to interest us all, but that was the task which he so gamely undertook and right well has he succeeded.

And so has passed the year 1912—the first year of editorial work begun and ended by our new editor, whose untiring efforts in a somewhat nomadic (but we believe now comfortable) office have been appreciated by one and all, perhaps more especially by those of us who, from close contact with the work, realise the difficulties, the disappointments, and the "eleventh hour" anxieties, which beset the path of whoever edits the *St. George's Gazette*.

"BEESWAX."

Since this Retrospect was written, the 2nd Battalion football team have defeated the Black Watch in the 3rd Round of the Army Cup, and peace has been restored in the "strike areas."

EXTRACTS FROM *The London Gazette*:—

GENERAL RESERVE OF OFFICERS.—S. S. Flower, late Captain Northumberland Fusiliers, to be Captain (dated 4th December, 1912).

5TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Lieutenant F. H. Lawson to be Captain (dated 1st November, 1912). Lieutenant G. T. Forrest resigns his commission (dated 4th December, 1912).

6TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Captain J. R. Hedley to be Major (dated 19th September, 1912); Lieutenant G. T. Parkinson to be Captain (dated 19th September, 1912); Second-Lieutenant R. F. Burnand to be Lieutenant (dated 19th September, 1912); F. C. Judges (late Cadet Quartermaster-Sergeant, Durham University O.T.C.) to be Second-Lieutenant (dated 4th December, 1912); Lieutenant C. J. H. Adamson to be Captain (dated 25th December, 1912).

The King has been graciously pleased to confer the Territorial Decoration upon the following officers of the Territorial Force, who have been duly recommended for the same under the terms of the Royal Warrant dated 17th August, 1908:— . . . . .
7TH BATTALION NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.—Major J. J. Gillespie.

HEXPERT CRITICISM.

(BY MARY ANN).

A SOLJER frend ask'd, as a personal favour, 'e
Mite escort me to barricks one nite
To see a peece call'd "'Twixt the Soop and the Savoury."
Wich, 'e said, was a bit of "orl right."

Reel ladees, said 'e, played the part of the skivvies
In a manner wich made the 'ouse ring;
With reel haprons and caps, and a smudge on their chivvies—
And, in fack, they was jest the *reel thing*.

Has a hexpert in hall that pertains to the kitching,
You may bet that I went to that gaff;
For, to see 'ow reel ladees play'd skivs, I was hitching,
And I more than expeckted a laff.

But the way they went on, keeping all their tungs busy
And hignorin' the work, made me feel
I was sittin' at 'ome with the cook, Em and Lizzie.
For it wasn't *play-hacting*—'twas *reel*.

Now, jest 'ow do they manige to get our dimenshings?—
Can't be wot they calls *hinstink* or *gift!*
And I more than suspecks, that (without sich *intenshings*)
They lerns hall that they no throo the *lift*.

Yes, they'd got us that *pat*—I was kwite flabbergasted
Hat the hend wen the kirtin did fall,
That, tho full forty minits that kitching-seen lasted,
There wasn't no brakidge at all.

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RICHARD POWER.

WE have to record this month the loss of another Mutiny veteran of the Regiment in the death, at the age of 87, of Mr. Richard Power, late Corporal, 1st Battalion.

A native of Clashmore, Youghal, Co. Cork, Richard Power enlisted at Bristol on the 9th July, 1847, at the age of 21 years, and a few weeks later sailed for Mauritius where he landed on the 18th December, 1847. With the 1st Battalion Power proceeded to India for the suppression of the Mutiny, reaching Calcutta on the 4th July, 1857. He served in India, earning the Mutiny medal, until the 1st Battalion sailed for England in 1861, and in 1868 was discharged at the termination of his second period of limited engagement after 21 years and 46 days' service, his parchment certificate bearing the entry "Conduct very good. Is in possession of five good conduct badges." In addition Richard Power was "enrolled as a 1st class member" of the Order of Merit dated 7th August, 1868.

After leaving the Army Power was "admitted an Out-Pensioner of Her Majesty's Royal Hospital at Chelsea on the 25th August, 1868, and receives a pension of 1/4 per diem," as a certificate dated the 26th August, 1868, records, and at the same time proceeded to take up the duties of a Civil Guard at Dartmoor and afterwards at Borstal Convict Prison, where he remained for fifteen years earning, as he had earned in the Service, the high opinion of his superiors.

But his Government service was not yet ended, for Power in 1884 became a messenger in the Ordnance Department at Chattenden, continuing in this billet until 1899 when he left with an exemplary character, having reached the age limit, after being in almost continuous Government service for fifty-two years.

Power's love for his old regiment never waned. "I should like to express," writes his son-in-law, "my gratitude to the Northumberland Fusiliers for their kindness in sending my late father-in-law his red and white roses on St. George's Day. Poor old fellow; he would say, 'not forgotten after all these years,' and how he looked forward to St. George's Day."

He leaves a widow, two sons and two daughters, and to them the Editor on behalf of the Regiment offers his deep sympathy in their sad loss. The soldierly spirit of the father appears again in his two sons, both of whom served in the FIFTH. The elder son, James Power, enlisted in 1877, served in the 2nd Battalion for some years in India and left after twelve years, afterwards joining the Cameron Highlanders, with whom he was present in Egypt in 1898 at the battles of "The Atbara" and "Omdurman," where he was wounded in the leg. He was afterwards invalided from the Cameron Highlanders as a sergeant, having about twenty years' service altogether.

The younger son, Richard Power, enlisted in the FIFTH in 1883 and left with the rank of Colour-Sergeant in 1907; he was on the Permanent Staff of the Militia Battalion and served with them in Malta during the South African War; he is now in Sydney, N.S.W.

Fifth or Northumberland Fusiliers.

ORDER OF MERIT. First CLASS.

This Certifies that the BEARER hereof No 2254 Corporal Richard Power in Captain Philip Fitzroy's Company has served in the Fifth or Northumberland Fusiliers for a period of 21 Twenty One years 2 Twenty days, and that he has been enrolled as a First Class Member of the aforesaid Honorable Order, for his exemplary conduct during that period.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Shorncliffe this Seventh day of August 1868

Philip Fitzroy Capt.
Fifth Fusiliers
Com'g Depôt.

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1st Battalion Notes.

MHOW, INDIA,
29th November, 1912.

NOVEMBER has indeed been a busy month for those of us who are not hardened to the society of monarchs, or the wave of abandoned dissipation that has swept over Mhow, culminating in a Fancy Dress Ball, at which false noses and whiskers, of amazing colour and dimensions, were flaunted before admiring crowds.

At the beginning of the month there were rehearsals for the Parade for H.E. the C.—in—C. Sir O'Moore Creagh arrived on the 3rd November, and on the following morning inspected the Garrison on the Brigade Parade Ground. After inspection, the Battalion marched past in Column of Double Companies with colours flying, and the Gunners galloped past followed by the 14th (King's) Hussars at a canter. Afterwards the Brigade formed up in its original alignment and advanced in Review Order. After parade His Excellency drove through our Barracks in his motor, having first inspected the R.A.T.A. buildings.

In the afternoon General and Mrs. Blomfield entertained Mhow and Indore at a Garden Party to meet Sir O'Moore and Lady Creagh, at which the officers of the Battalion were present.

On the following day the Brigade executed a convoy scheme for the C.—in—C.; Lieutenant-Colonel Sapte commanding the convoy and escort against Colonel Short, R.H.A., who brought a raiding force against the convoy's right flank. Our Colonel gained the honours of the day, the C.—in—C. remarking on the general excellence and execution of the manœuvre.

After lunch the 14th (King's) Hussars were At Home for a Gymkhana on the Polo Ground, and they gave us a very jolly afternoon, chasing potatoes from bucket to bucket, or improvising passionate telegrams from most uninspiring words.

On the 6th the Battalion was At Home for a small Skittle Polo Tournament, for which we had entered two teams out of a total entry of five. It was run on American lines, and handicap rules, each team playing every other two chukkers; our teams managed to gain the first two places.

The same night H.E. left the Station, and next morning the Viceroy held precisely a similar inspection of the Mhow Garrison to the one which the C.—in—C. had held. He proceeded immediately afterwards to Indore.

It is to be regretted that our Indore correspondent has failed to present us with a detailed account of the orgies at which he assisted; but had he been able to do so—space and not modesty forbids the publication of these festivities. Suffice it to say that E and F Companies were given the honour of forming Officer's Guards over H.E. the Viceroy, and were quartered in the Mavik Bagh at Indore; the party was under the charge of Captain Sandilands and included Lieutenants Lamb, Stephen and Sutherland.

We entered a team for the Indore Cup Polo Tournament. This tournament drew several of India's finest native teams to Indore, and it was one of these that defeated us in the first round by two goals over our handicap. The Battalion was represented by Lieutenant Platt (1); Lieutenant Lamb (2); Captain Sandilands (3); and Lieutenant Sloper (back).

On the 5th November, while the Battalion was on a field day, a fire broke out in the Bazaar, in a house full of explosives. The owners having decamped and a considerable crowd assembled, the house blew up with most unhappy results, many children, women and men being killed on the spot, and more dying in hospital afterwards.

We must congratulate Captain Selby and Lieutenant Sutherland on their promotion. Captain Selby has taken over command of A Company, while Lieutenant Stephen has rejoined us from England.

Our best congratulations are due to Captain Gatehouse on his engagement.

The motoring world of Central India has been stirred to the centre of its being by a new Arrol-Johnstone car that Colonel Sapte has just bought; Lieutenant Watkin is once more wallowing in his element.

No. 2828 Private P. Byrne has been awarded a Military Telegraphist's Certificate, dated Poona, the 5th inst.

No. 1491 Lance-Corporal J. Drayson has been awarded an Assistant-Instructor's Certificate in Army Signalling and Field Telephony, dated Poona, the 6th inst.

Good Conduct Badges have been awarded as under:—

No.	2814	Private	H. Wiles	1	from 22/ 4/12
„	2823	„	F. Scriven	1	„ 17/ 5/12
„	2339	„	P. Wursten	1	„ 1/ 7/12
„	2405	„	E. Puxty	1	„ 19/ 8/12
„	1540	„	W. Shingler	2	„ 20/ 8/12
„	2871	„	J. Gray	1	„ 24/ 8/12
„	2614	Lance-Corporal	D. Quinn	1	„ 2/ 9/12
„	2888	Private	E. Payne	1	„ 2/ 9/12
„	2890	„	R. Vincent	1	„ 5/ 9/12
„	3032	„	T. Jackson	2	„ 24/ 9/12
„	2929	„	F. Humphrey	1	„ 6/10/12
„	2114	Lance-Corporal	M. King	2	„ 13/10/12

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No.	2938	Private	D. Scott	1	from 25/10/12
„	2120	„	G. Render	2	„ 26/10/12
„	1374	„	G. Simkins	2	„ 29/10/12
„	2140	„	W. Carlin	2	„ 31/10/12
„	2134	„	J. Leaeh	2	„ 5/11/12
„	2684	„	A. Jackson	1	„ 17/11/12

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

This month we have regretfully to chronicle the loss the Battalion has sustained by the departure of Quartermaster-Sergeant Lendon, who has been invalided after over twenty years' continuous service with the 1st Battalion. Doubtless, the full record of his service will appear elsewhere in these pages; but no such record can convey the high esteem in which he was held by all ranks, nor the keen appreciation felt for his services. For many years he has occupied positions of trust and considerable responsibility, and, for the past few years prevailing circumstances decreed that practically the entire burden of his department devolved upon his shoulders during the most strenuous periods—notably, various moves to and from the hills and (no light matter) the Mohmand Expedition. Yet, even under the most trying conditions, he never displayed the slightest irritability, but was ever courteous and obliging to all, irrespective of rank. It is quite possible that the worry and anxiety of these occasions contributed largely to the breakdown of his health. There was a quiet social gathering of the members and their families in the Mess on the eve of his departure to bid him *au revoir*. During the evening, Sergeant-Major Wooll, on behalf of the members, presented him with a silver travelling clock, suitably inscribed, as a very small token of our affectionate regard; and for which Quartermaster-Sergeant Lendon briefly and very feelingly replied. To say that our sincere wishes for his speedy restoration to health go with him, and that nothing which the utmost good fortune may bestow upon him will be more than his desserts, seems almost superfluous to mention.

Another popular member has also left us this month in the person of Colour-Sergeant Somerville, who has gone to take up the post of Instructor to the Nagpur Volunteer Rifles. To him also we tender our heartiest wishes for the future.

And yet one more departure, which we omitted in our last notes, viz., that of Army-Schoolmaster Charman, who has exchanged with Mr. Sugden, late Schoolmaster of the R.I. Regiment. Apart from his scholastic abilities, Mr. Charman will be greatly missed by the Regimental Variety Troupe, of which he was a shining light. We are fortunate in his successor, who, besides his educational accomplishments, is also a jolly good fellow, and could knock spots off Bret Harte's "Heathen Chinee" at euchre.

Our monthly whist drives and dances still continue, but we are glad to have other matters to fill our space with this month.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Drum-Major and Mrs. Hone, whose eldest daughter, "Babs," has died of diphtheria at the age of seven years.

Extract from a letter of a member recently posted to the Territorials:—"If a parade is ordered at 7 o'clock we fall in at 8, and anybody not there by 9 is reported absent."

Congratulations to Sergeant Gillborn on winning the silver medal at the Meerut Meeting. He now possesses both the gold and silver medals.

For a grouser at meals
Please commend me to "Kog,"
(Whose fine "bulb" when it peels,
Is suggestive of grog.)

Four fried eggs—a large steak—
Bread and butter galore—
For his breakfast he'll take,
And shout loudly for more.

If 'tis not forthcoming—
Then, O bearer, beware!
For things will be humming
If there's no more to spare.

For his dinner: Soup thrice,
Curry?—Much as you please,
A small joint, in a trice,
He despatches with ease.

As for pudding—well, there!—
It quite makes me feel ill
To observe the huge share
That it requires to fill.

His diminutive (!) Mar—
Y, expanding to burst,
(In a race with his rare
Nose 'tis easily first).

Then, when having with nerve
Soon accomplish'd this feat,
He will gruffly observe
"Aint there nothing to *eat*?"

A FUSILIER SPEAKS.

To the 5th Servian Infantry Regiment fell the chief honours of the battle. In spite of a murderous artillery fire they carried position after position, charging the enemy with the bayonet.—Press Association War Special.

CHEER oh! my comrades over sea,
Although we've never met you,
The fine old number's good enough
(As Yanks would say, "I bet you")
To act as introduction.

You crossed the frontier line in style,
The Turkish linesman got it!
With bayonet fixed and eyes agleam
(My word! you lads can "hot it")
You carried the position!

Perhaps your corps is Fusilier
Or perhaps it's Lightbob?
What's it matter—Cheer oh Fifth,
You took the town of Uskob,
And several hundred field guns.

G. R. B. S.

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2nd Battalion Notes.

HILLSBOROUGH BARRACKS, SHEFFIELD,
22nd December, 1912.

ON the night of the 10th December the third Indian Draft left here, and with them went Captain Forster. Nothing definite has yet been heard as to when we are to move to Strensall, but we all hope that the move will take place early in the New Year.

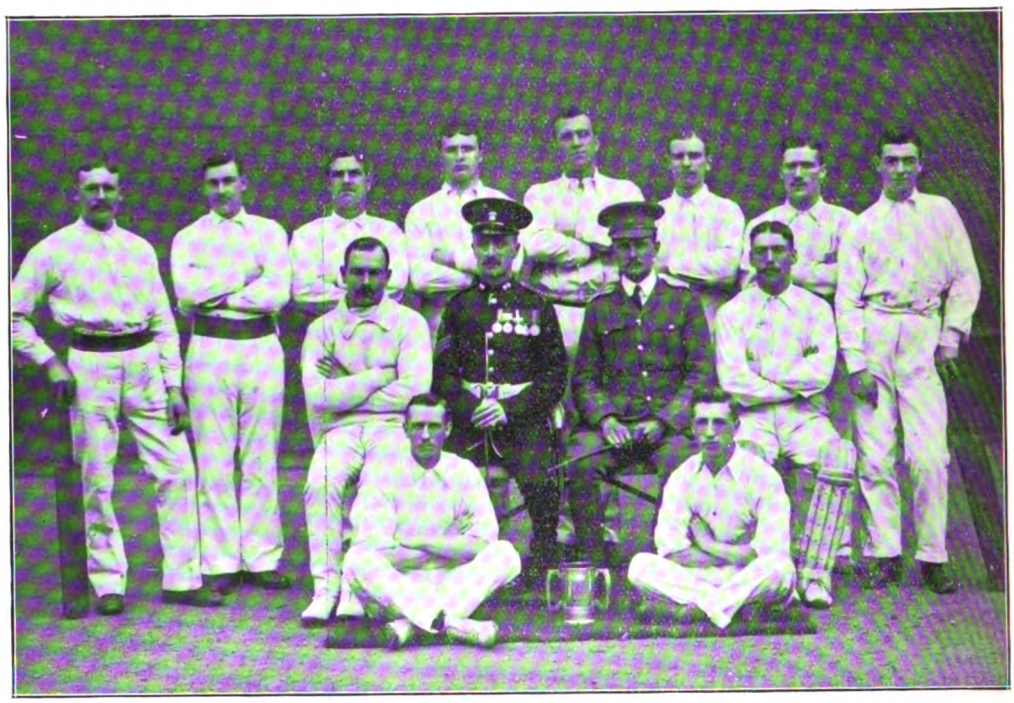
There will be comparatively few men here on Christmas Day. Nevertheless, preparations are being made to make things as festive as possible for those who remain to eat their plum pudding here. The barrack rooms are beginning to look very different, and by the 25th they will have assumed a very gay appearance, adorned by all sorts of coloured festoons and draperies.

Lieutenant Leverson has gone on leave and Captain Auld has come here to take over the duties of Adjutant. Of course, we are all exceedingly pleased at having defeated the Black Watch in the 3rd Round of the Army Football Cup – but more of this in the Football notes.

At the People's Concert, Victoria Hall, Sheffield, on Saturday night, the 14th inst., a large and appreciative audience numbering just on 3,000 people listened to the Band under the leadership of Mr. Cooper. This concert, by the way, was announced on the programme as probably the last appearance of the Band of the 2nd Battalion Northumberland (the Fifth) Fusiliers. A Sheffield daily paper the same day announced our departure for Strensall immediately after Christmas. Rumours will run round. It is quite possible, however, that these announcements accounted for the great ovation which greeted Mr. Cooper as soon as he appeared upon the platform to conduct the Band.

The great hall was packed and every possible seat was filled, people had even to be accommodated on the stage alongside the Band, and there are 3,000 seats in the hall. It is doubtful if the Band's popularity was ever shewn to better advantage than it was this night. Even before the last notes of a piece had died away the outburst of applause came on like the rush of an avalanche and nothing would satisfy the audience till Mr. Cooper tapped his baton, the usual signal. The Band certainly acquitted itself splendidly and gave a delightful rendering of their programme. The appreciation shewn by such a large audience must have well repaid the members of the Band for their painstaking labours and will leave in their memory, at least, some pleasant recollections of Sheffield. We may be pardoned for culling an expression overheard in the hall after the rendering of "Patience" as shewing a very acceptable criticism from a Sheffield audience. The expression was "splendid, they play better every time."

The Chairman (Rev. A. J. G. Seaton) after some complimentary remarks said that they would all miss the Band and they all regretted its departure.



Lce.-Cpl. Todd Lce.-Cpl. Taylor Cpl. Herbert Lce.-Cpl. Clay Pte. Longtry Lce.-Sgt. Davis Pte. Lowden Pte. Farrell
Bdsm. Wickham Clr.-Sergt. Wells Lieut. Brownlow Cpl. Lynam
Bdsm. Reynolds Bdsm. J. Reynolds

F COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION—WINNERS OF INTER-COMPANY CRICKET CUP, 1912.

PROGRAMME.

March	"The Bride Elect"	*Sousa*
Selection	"Patience"	*Sullivan*
Overture	"Ruy Blas" ...	*Mendelssohn*
Selection	"Gipsy Love"	*Lehar*
Gavotte	"Wedding Bells"	*Rimmer*
Two Step ...	"Alexander's Ragtime Band" ...	*Berlin*
Regimental March		

GOD SAVE THE KING.

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Madame Aimee Wathen-Cole was the soloist and she gave a most delightful rendering of the following:—

"Songs my mother taught me"
"Lullaby"
"The nightingale has a lyre of gold"
"Coming thro' the Rye"
"Serenade" *Gounod*
"Home Sweet Home"

and in the latter she received a well merited applause from an audience who understood and believed the touching words of this beautiful song.

The following have left the Service during the month:—

No. 7387 Private J. CLARKBURN.—Enlisted, 22/12/00; discharged, 21/12/12; service, 12 years; served in 2nd and 3rd Battalions. Service abroad: West Indies, 84 days; South Africa, 4 years 225 days.

The following Promotions and Appointments have been made:—

To be Sergeant and appointed Sergeant-Cook:—

No. 5201 Lance-Sergeant J. Walker from 21/11/12

To be paid Lance-Sergeants:—

No. 6161	Lance-Sergeant	E. Kenning	from 16/11/12
„ 1271	Corporal	D. Morris	„ 21/11/12
„ 6039	Lance-Sergeant	R. Pincher	„ 1/12/12
„ 1974	„	G. Walsh	„ 11/12/12

To be unpaid Lance-Sergeants:—

No. 1974	Corporal	G. Walsh	from 30/11/12
„ 35	„	A. Gold	„ 30/11/12
„ 2099	„	G. Capstaff	„ 11/12/12

To be Corporals:—

No. 2721	Lance-Corporal	A. Robson	from 6/10/12
„ 2356	„	F. Gammon	„ 7/10/12
„ 2148	„	J. Patterson	„ 18/10/12
„ 2786	„	W. Christie	„ 20/11/12
„ 2401	„	A. Timbers	„ 21/11/12

To be paid Lance-Corporals:—

No. 7199	Lance-Corporal	P. Symes	from 26/ 7/12
„ 8018	„	W. Lewis	„ 12/ 9/12
„ 7200	„	A. Cawdrey	„ 12/ 9/12
„ 7155	„	T. Bird	„ 18/ 9/12
„ 615	„	R. Winter	„ 1/10/12
„ 9188	„	H. Grayson	„ 6/10/12
„ 3155	„	W. Hawdin	„ 7/10/12
„ 3223	„	L. Henry	„ 18/10/12
„ 3310	„	A. Chapman	„ 20/11/12
„ 2200	„	A. Leith	„ 21/11/12
„ 2906	„	J. Dunnage	„ 1/12/12

To be unpaid Lance-Corporals:—

No. 3126	Private	H. Shoard	from 16/11/12
„ 2407	„	W. Davis	„ 14/12/12
„ 3183	„	A. Williams	„ 14/12/12

No. 8451 Sergeant T. Hiorns re-engaged to complete 21 years' service with the Colours, dated the 20th ult.

Certificates of Education have been awarded as follows:—

2nd Class:—

(dated 14/12/12)

No. 2372 Lce.-Cpl. J. Clark — No. 3459 Pte. R. Ayre
„ 2981 „ R. Powell — „ 3440 „ J. Hill
No. 3471 Private H. Turner

3rd Class:—

(dated 25/11/12)

No. 2838 Private C. Wheaton

(dated 28/11/12)

No. 2235	Lce.-Cpl.	A. Alderson	No. 3448 Pte. J. Carter
„ 9259	Pte.	H. Barker	„ 3454 „ S. Dixon
„ 3458	„	W. Storey	„ 3460 Boy A. Cuffe
„ 178	„	R. Burnett	„ 3450 „ A. West

(dated 14/12/12)

No. 3326 Pte. G. Richards — No. 2766 Pte. H. Lynn
No. 3472 Boy C. Hughes

No. 650 Private F. Rickwood transferred to the Corps of Military Foot Police, with effect from the 18th September, 1912.

HUNTING.

The weather here at the beginning of the month was so bad as to stop hunting for a week. We had a heavy fall of snow, and after that a frost set in. However, in a week all signs of snow and frost had disappeared and we have had some very good days with the Grove and Badsworth hounds. We had an exceptionally good day with the Grove on the 13th, after meeting at Brampton. In spite of very rough weather on this day the scent was good, and we enjoyed two excellent runs. The second day of the Regimental Staff Tour had to be postponed owing to the snow.

FOOTBALL.

ARMY CUP—2ND ROUND.

5TH FUSILIERS v. SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE REGIMENT.

We defeated the South Staffordshire Regiment at Lichfield on the 26th ult. after a great contest, in which the result was in doubt until the last minute, when Private Lockey scored our second goal. We expected to have a tough nut to crack in this match, and were not disappointed. Our opponents had in their side a last year's Army back. Both teams set off at a tremendous pace, and each goal was bombarded in turn, Lance-Corporal McGeevor having some terrific shots to negotiate, which he did in great style. The South Staffordshire defence withstood all attacks until near half-time, when Sergeant Todd ran through and scored with a screw shot well out of the goal-keeper's reach. The second half showed no slackening of pace, our opponents making great efforts to equalise, and our team to forge further ahead. At one time, although both Draper and Lynn were playing very finely at back, shot after shot rained upon McGeevor, but he dealt with them all successfully. Towards the end Lockey placed the result beyond doubt by scoring the second goal from an awkward position. All the forwards played well, Sutton and Farrell being the pick. Cunningham as usual was excellent, being

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ably assisted by Christie and Lewis. All defenders were in great form. 160 non-commissioned officers and men proceeded to Lichfield to see the match, and were most kindly entertained by the South Staffordshire Regiment. Regimental team :—

Goal :—

Lance-Corporal McGeevor

Backs :—

Private Lynn Lance-Sergeant Draper

Half-backs :—

Lce.-Cpl. Christie Bdsmn. Cunningham Lce.-Cpl. Lewis

Forwards :—

Bandsman Sutton Sergeant Todd Private Lockey
Sergeant Hiorns Private Farrell

3RD ROUND.

5TH FUSILIERS V. BLACK WATCH.

In the 3rd Round of the Army Cup we were drawn against the Black Watch, stationed at Edinburgh. Owing to the distance between the stations we were ordered to meet half-way, so the match was played on the 18th inst. at Newcastle on the ground of the Newcastle United Club. Over 200 non-commissioned officers and men from Headquarters, Pontefract and Strensall accompanied the team. Some 500 or 600 local enthusiasts were also present. The result was a runaway victory for us by 5 goals to 1. The Scotsmen were the first to score, their outside left getting clean away and giving McGeevor no chance with a shot from close in. But this was the extent of their success, as our team, playing splendid football, never gave them another chance. Sergeant Todd was in great form, performing the hat-trick, scoring two goals before half-time and one afterwards. In the second half goals were also scored by Sutton and Farrell, the latter's shot being a very fine drive from a long way out. Farrell and Lockey combined splendidly on the left wing, and both Sergeant Todd and Sutton did great work. Lance-Corporal Lewis was very safe at half, and also Sergeant Draper at back. The team was the same as in the 2nd Round. Amongst the spectators we were very pleased to see Major Thomson looking extremely fit and well.

HATCHARD CUP LEAGUE.

In this Sheffield Senior League we stand at present at the top of the tree. On the 30th ult., on a snow-covered ground, we defeated Cammell Laird's by 2 goals to *nil*, and on the 7th inst. we accounted for Woodhouse by 3 goals to 2. Both matches were away from home.

Up to the present out of fifteen matches played we have only lost one, and that with a second team. We hope to be equally successful in the second half of the season.

2nd Battalion (Pontefract Detachment) Notes.

THE BARRACKS, PONTEFRACT,
23rd December, 1912.

IF you have a friend in the 2nd FIFTH and wish to see him, you will read in that infallible monthly, *The Army List*, that he is to be found at Sheffield. But you will be probably quite wrong, for he may be on the ranges at Fleetwood, leading the life of a snipe at Strensall, in comfortable barracks at Pontefract, on furlough, going through a course, or accompanying a draft to India.

So to find him you must appreciate the situation very carefully and it is doubtful if you ever will get into touch with him, for your letter will be destroyed by a suffragette, and your journey is almost sure to be stopped by a strike.

News unluckily does not increase with the numbers of detachments. Games fall through from lack of numbers, and there remains but the bare fact of winter training and the labours of working parties to chronicle.

In the end of November we carried out a Regimental Tour. We met at Ackworth Moor Top on a frosty morning with a wind straight off the ice and proceeded to carry out the scheme which had been set for "C" earlier in the month.

By one o'clock we had fought our way to Hemsworth where we were strongly reinforced by an excellent brand of beer and cold mince pies, discovered in a public-house. The effect was quite magical, and the attack on the enemy at Brierly, helped on by the weather which grew colder and more foggy every minute, was carried out with great dash. We were to have pursued him next day, but five inches of snow on the ground, with a young blizzard blowing, allowed him to withdraw without further molestation.

The snow with the ensuing thaw has given the Strensall working party a very poor time. They are engaged in levelling camping grounds on which the Special Reserve and Territorials may disport themselves during the summer months. Levelling operations are sufficiently tedious in good weather, but when every depression becomes a bog and remains so further remarks on the joys of a winter working party become unprintable.

The Army Cup Tie against the Black Watch afforded one welcome break. The majority of the Detachment availed themselves of the leave granted to see the match at Newcastle.

Some of us have taken a small shoot twelve miles beyond York. Thither we proceed periodically in a motor, a journey of seventy-two miles there and back, which is not bad for a day's shooting. At the commencement of the

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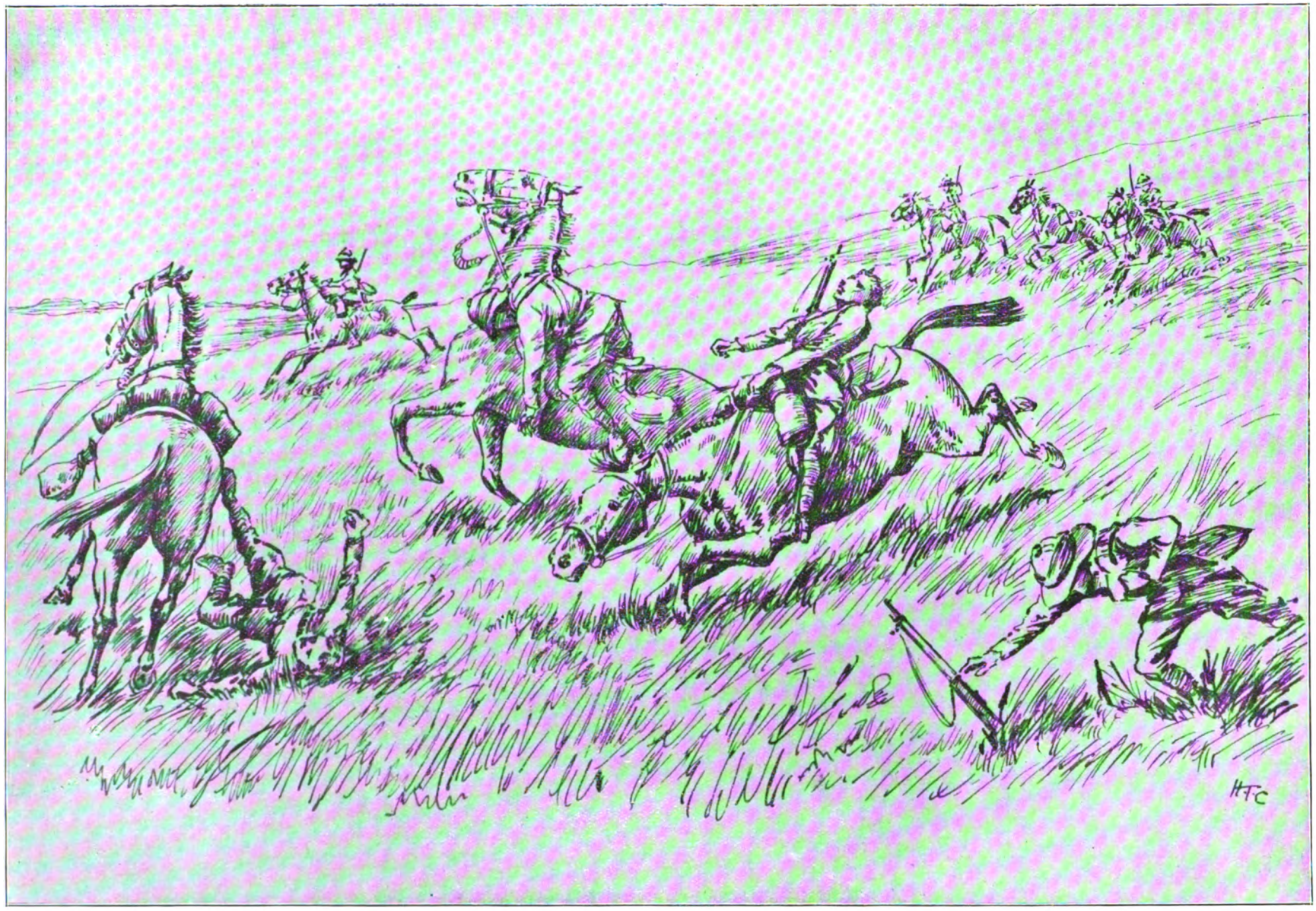

This is what we are known as—that is the song you must say
When you want men to be Mausered at one and a penny a day.
We are no five-bob colonials—we are the 'ome made supply
Ask for the London Ikonas! Ring up the ——— M.I.

RUDYARD KIPLING.

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season we did quite well amongst the partridges, but the veterans which survive are very highly trained and evade every manœuvre of the guns with ease. To be in at the death of a pheasant is an event of the day. Our one dog always achieves this feat and generally manages in addition to break up the kill before the rest of the field are up. These days afford plenty of exercise, but not nearly enough for one of the party, whose pace increases as the day draws on, until at sunset he is just visible in the dusk as he literally doubles ahead, frantically exhorting that "we will just try the other side of the road once more before we go."

We were very sorry to hear the sad news of the death of Private Sims of F Company on board the transport while on his way with the second draft to India. The cause of his death is not known, the bare facts having been received in a letter by a comrade. A good machine-gunner and a smart soldier, he was the type of man who is a real credit to his regiment.

Christmas Day in barracks here will be a very tame affair this year. Hardly a dozen men will sit down to dinner.

HUNTING NOTES.

The Badsworth hounds have been having very good sport during December, but the heavy state of the country has been very hard on horses. Major Turner and Lieutenant Barkworth have represented this Detachment on several occasions, and we were glad to see Captain Hart on the 16th, when there was a good gallop in the afternoon.

We hear some Sheffield officers braved the elements on the 14th, at Bilham, their courage being of a higher order than that of the Pontefract representatives, who were conspicuous by their absence.

2nd Battalion (Fleetwood Detachment) Notes.

THE HUTMENTS, FLEETWOOD,
23rd December, 1912.

THE Detachment unites in wishing all members of the 5th Fusiliers—both past and present—a most Happy Xmas and a Prosperous New Year. Xmas will have passed by the time these notes appear in print, and New Year's Day may also be an event gone by, but without doubt, readers will note that these lines were penned before the advent of the festive season.

It is again our pleasant duty to offer to the Regimental Football Team our congratulations on their third victory this season in the Army Cup Competition. The news of their victory over the Black Watch was received here with much pleasure, and tempts us to hope for far greater triumphs in the future.

It is pleasant to be able to record that the new guard room now being built adjoining the magazine will be ready for occupation in a few weeks' time. It will be most up-to-date—in fact the last word in buildings of its kind. The men of the Detachment are looking forward to the time when their guard duty will be done in far more congenial surroundings than is at present the case.

During the month the local Detachment of the R.A.M.C. held a very successful Dance in the large Ward of the Hospital; many of the 5th Fusiliers were invited, and partook with much pleasure of the hospitality of the Medicos. We hope to be able to return the compliment in the course of a few weeks.

Just at present things are extremely quiet here, as we have no Detachments undergoing musketry. We are expecting the Garrison to be augmented about the middle of January, when a good number of Special Reserve recruits should proceed here for their Recruits Course of Musketry.

Depôt Notes.

THE BARRACKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
19th December, 1912.

THE early appearance of frost at the end of November brought most things to a standstill at the Depôt. Hunting was stopped for several days, and skating being of a poor description, everyone was pleased to see a return of more favourable climatic conditions.

We heartily congratulate the 2nd Battalion on their well-deserved victory (5—1) over the Black Watch in the 3rd Round of the Army Cup. The losers tried hard right from start to finish. Our team should go much further in the competition. The whole team were well together and the tackling was brilliant whilst the forwards did not hesitate to shoot. The courtesy of the Newcastle United Directors in granting the use of their ground at a nominal fee will, we are sure, be much appreciated.

During the winter Company runs take place once a fortnight, with route marching on alternate Tuesdays. The question of pace on one of these runs gave rise to some discussion between two prominent members of the Sergeants' Mess. The pace was supposed to be rather hot, and while one stalwart member continued to run without any wind, the other party to the argument had so drawn upon his supply of reserve breath that he was compelled to fall out altogether.

No. 7971 Lance-Sergeant G. Challoner proceeded to Portland on the 25th ult. to join the 1st Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers on appointment as Master-Tailor.

No. 3511 Quartermaster-Sergeant A. Lendon, 1st Bat-

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talion, was discharged at Netley on the 20th inst. on being found "medically unfit for further service."

No. 2926 Lance-Corporal A. Mellish was discharged on the 4th inst., "having claimed after three months' notice," and has been awarded a pension of 1s.

The following Certificates of Education have been awarded, dated Newcastle-on-Tyne, 21/11/12 :—

2nd Class :—

No. 3457 Private R. Beatty

3rd Class :—

No. 8175 Private P. Henaghan
" 8199 " W. Edmed
No. 8190 Private J. Scrimshaw
" 8200 " A. Hotchkiss

Lieutenant A. A. C. Forster, 3rd Battalion, attended a Rifle Refresher Course at the School of Musketry, Hythe, from the 26th ult. to the 6th inst.

Sergeants Archbold and Lane, 3rd Battalion, attended a Rifle Qualifying Course at the School of Musketry, Hythe, from the the 26th ult. to the 6th inst., and qualified on its termination.

3rd Battalion Notes.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
15th December, 1912.

THE Annual Regimental Dinner was held at the Imperial Restaurant, London, on Thursday, 12th December. The following past and present officers attended :—Colonels the Duke of Northumberland, K.G., A.D.C., and W. E. Sturges ; Lieutenant-Colonels W. Orde, R. J. Roddam, R. Scott (7th Battalion), and A. Marshall ; Majors P. H. G. Powell-Cotton, the Hon. A. Joicey, R. F. Roundell, T. H. Lindberg and J. Bett ; Captains C. W. Wreford-Brown, D.S.O., C. du S. Leather, E. A. Leather, C. P. Hawkes, N. T. Lloyd and the Hon. W. H. Littleton ; Lieutenants C. E. Thornton, E. J. Lamb and Cresswell Hobbs. Telegrams and letters were received from a number of other officers unable to be present.

4th Battalion Notes.

HEXHAM,
19th December, 1912.

AS an innovation this year we held a Battalion Officers' Dinner, and were rewarded with a good attendance and a pleasant evening. The function took place at the Royal Hotel, Hexham, on the 5th inst., and the officers present were :—

Retired Officers :

Colonel L. C. Lockhart, V.D.
Major W. J. Bickers-Stephenson
Lieut.-Col. D. Stewart, V.D.
Lieutenant J. Gibson

Serving Officers :

Lieut.-Col. J. Gibson, V.D.
Major E. Dixon
" W. E. Stephenson
Captain B. D. Gibson
" D. K. McComb
" S. Hankin
" F. Robinson
" J. G. Miller
Lieutenant W. Robb
" J. R. Robb
" L. D. Plummer
" R. L. Routledge
Second-Lieut. E. C. Dixon
" R. S. M. Logan
Capt. & Adjutant B. T. St. John
Lieut. and Quartermaster W. H. Wynnsford

The members of C (Haydon Bridge) Company held their Annual Dance on the 26th ult. This event is always keenly looked forward to in the Haydon Bridge District and a big success was again recorded. The officers of the Battalion present were :—Captains McComb and Robinson, Lieutenants W. Robb, J. R. Robb, Plummer and Routledge.

The following officers of the Battalion took part in a Brigade Instructional Tour on the 14th and 15th inst. at Newcastle and Howden-on-Tyne :—Captain S. Hankin, Lieutenant R. Smith, Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. H. Wynnsford.

Sergeant G. Badger, G (Newburn) Company, has obtained an Assistant-Instructor of Signalling Certificate at Bulford.

5th Battalion Notes.

HEADQUARTERS, WALKER-ON-TYNE,
20th December, 1912.

ON Thursday evening, the 5th inst., Viscount Ridley., Hon. Colonel of the Regiment, distributed the prizes. There was a large gathering for the occasion in the Drill Hall, Walker. Lieutenant-Colonel MacDonald (the C.O.) presided, and was supported by Major-General Burton, commanding the Northumbrian Division ; Colonel Riddell, commanding the Northumberland Infantry Brigade, and the following officers of the Corps :—Majors Myles and Carlisle ; Captain and Adjutant Saltau-Symons ; Captains Grinling, Harle, Luhrs, Proud, Nash ; Lieutenants Kitching, Phillips, Stobart, Forrett, Tweedy, Holloway ; 2nd Lieutenants Hill, Bainbridge, Kinsella, Dodds, Leask, Fairweather and North.

Colonel MacDonald, in reviewing the work of the past year, stated that the strength of the Battalion this time last year was 21 officers, and 788 non-commissioned officers and men. On the 1st November this year it was 26 officers and 826 men—an increase of 5 officers and 38 rank and file. During the year 313 men were entitled to their discharge, being time-expired, 77 of these re-engaged, but no less than 261 left for various causes ; against this, however, they gained the large number of 296 recruits. He hoped that during the present year recruiting would be good, especially at Gosforth, as over 300 non-commissioned officers and men would be time-expired. He thanked the employers of labour in the

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district for the patriotic manner in which they allowed the men to attend camp for the 15 days. There was also a big improvement in musketry, 833 fired as against 729 in 1911, and of this number only 35 failed to attain the required standard, and these were all recruits.

Lord Ridley presented the prizes, and in returning thanks for the honour the Battalion had done him in electing him as their Honorary Colonel, said that he was glad to hear of the success of the Corps, and hoped they would still improve upon the high position they already held among the Battalions of the Territorial Force.

Major-General Burton moved a vote of thanks to Lord Ridley, and in the course of his remarks commended the Battalion on its smartness in work at camp. Colonel Riddell seconded, and the vote was cordially carried. A dance followed the presentation.

GOSFORTH DETACHMENT,

20th December, 1912.

Early in the month H Company held a special military night at the Picture Hall, Forest Hall; there was a good attendance, which resulted in several recruits.

G Company held a highly successful concert in the Drill Hall, Gosforth, on Wednesday, the 11th. Corporal Banks brought the party who gave us two hours' enjoyment, the hall being well filled in all parts.

6th Battalion Notes.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

17th December, 1912.

THERE is rarely much to chronicle during this month with us of the Territorial Force, and the present year is proving no exception to the rule.

Our Inter-Company Winter Training Competition for this season takes the form of a test mobilisation scheme. Six Companies have been mobilised up to date, and the results have not been gratifying. Apparently it requires the motive power of a "national emergency" to make a success of such a scheme.

An attempt is being made to raise a company of shop assistants from those employed by the various firms in the city. The scheme was initiated at a meeting which was held on the 9th inst., with the Lord Mayor of Newcastle in the chair. A recruiting committee was appointed to work the scheme, and it is hoped that the company will begin to take shape at the beginning of the new year.

We congratulate Second-Lieutenant F. C. Judges on his appointment to the Battalion.

The Annual Sergeants' Mess Dinner took place at the Collingwood Hotel on the 12th inst. We were honoured by the presence of Lieutenant-Colonel Spain, Majors Lovibond, Pinkney, and many other officers. Over 100 officers and sergeants were present (a record).

A Company have again won the Inter-Company Shield Competition.

The Sergeants' Shield Competition has been won by B Company, A Company being beaten by the narrow margin of two points.

7th Battalion Notes.

ALNWICK,

16th December, 1912.

A GYMNASIUM has been started at Alnwick Drill Hall, which should be both a good thing in itself and an aid to recruiting. The work is being carried out by the Sergeant-Major with the assistance of Sergeant W. Housby and Mr. G. Pearson, Orderly-Room Clerk.

At Warkworth on the 7th inst. the Brigadier, Colonel J. F. Riddell, presented to Sergeant M. J. Turner, of E Company, the Royal Humane Society's Certificate on vellum for gallantly rescuing a child from drowning in the River Coquet on Tuesday, 1st October. The river at the time was greatly swollen with the previous heavy rains, there being an extra 5ft. of water. By this plucky action Sergeant Turner ran great risk, and we congratulate him on the public acknowledgment of his gallantry.

ADDITIONS TO THE SUCCESSION LIST OF OFFICERS.

Page 12—To the list of Captains add:—

R. S. Fletcher	4th September, 1912.
E. L. D. Forster	1st October, 1912.
B. H. Selby	1st October, 1912.

Page 22—To the list of Lieutenants add:—

E. H. Baxter	1st October, 1911.
W. P. H. Rushbrooke	23rd December, 1911.
E. L. Salier	10th April, 1912.
M. Blackett Ord	10th April, 1912.
W. H. C. Brownlow	4th September, 1912.

Page 25—To the list of Second-Lieutenants add:—

K. G. Williams	14th February, 1912.
E. S. Swaine	14th February, 1912.
B. G. Gunner	4th September, 1912.

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Editorial Notes.

26, Hans Crescent,
London, S.W.,
22nd December, 1912.

AS this month's issue completes the first full year since the present Editor took office, some figures regarding the *Gazette* may be of interest.

The number of copies printed each month has averaged about 2200; new subscribers during the year numbered twelve, while the *Gazette* has lost through death, withdrawals, etc., the subscriptions of forty-four subscribers. In addition the *Gazette* has been withheld temporarily from fourteen other subscribers who, in spite of two reminder notices, have not paid their subscriptions for 1912. It has proved to be a vain hope that the non-arrival of the *Gazette* would remind these subscribers that their subscriptions remained unpaid; they do not seem to have noticed its absence. The subscriptions thus due amount to £5 16s. 0d., and by far the greater number are due from ten shilling subscribers.

Finally, there are one or two subscribers to whom, though their subscriptions remain unpaid, the *Gazette* is still sent in virtue of their long and hitherto unblemished record in the matter of subscriptions; the Editor feels that these latter unpaid subscriptions are due to forgetfulness and does not desire to worry the subscribers any more. A statement touching the financial position of the *Gazette* will be published next month.

As regards contributions to the *Gazette* in the shape of articles for publication, apart from the monthly notes, the 1st Battalion have sent ten and the 2nd Battalion three, so that in the latter case the Editor has had to rely on contributions from outside the Regiment. In this connection he can only quote from the *Gazette* of 25 years ago as follows:—" but we cannot *fill up* the pages with '*Subscriptions received*,' so we again urge those who *can* write *to write and write often*, and those who *can't* write '*to get another fellow to write for them*.' "

We are asked to mention that Sergeant McKim, late of the 1st Battalion and now of the Corps of Commissionaires, has a few photographs of the 1st Battalion scroll of honour which appeared in the October issue of the *Gazette*. The price, unmounted, is 2s. 6d., post free; communications should be addressed to Sergeant McKim at 419, Strand, London, W.C.

We notice in a Contemporary the statement that only three regiments, of whom the FIFTH is not one, served uninterruptedly in the Peninsular War from 1808 to 1814. In the case of one of these regiments whose Peninsular record we have investigated we find that while it may, possibly, be considered to have formed part of Wellesley's original landing force in 1808, it was not present at the battles of Roliça or Vimiera because it had not yet landed in Portugal, or Corunna with the exception of one company which returned to England with the wreckage of Sir John Moore's army. So that this particular corps was not altogether complete though its headquarters and remaining companies stayed in Portugal until Sir A. Wellesley's return in the spring of 1809.

On the other hand it may be said that the Fifth Regiment did not serve continuously in the Peninsula from 1808—1814, though it sailed from Cork with Sir A. Wellesley and other troops in July, 1808, i.e., the original expedition, and was present at the above-mentioned battles, because it embarked for England after Corunna; yet a detachment of nearly 100 men was left in Portugal after the embarkation, and, formed into a battalion of detachments under Lieutenant-Colonel Copson of the FIFTH, took part in the battle of Talavera three weeks after the 2nd Battalion had landed at Lisbon. Of the numerous battles fought during this long campaign under Lord Wellington's personal leadership the FIFTH were represented in all but one, viz., the Passage of the Douro, in May, 1809, and no regiment among those who were not affected by linking system in 1881 has as many Peninsular battle honours.

All ranks of the 5th Fusiliers congratulate their chief—Lieutenant-General Sir Bryan Milman, K.C.B.—on attaining his ninetieth birthday on the 30th of this month, and wish him many happy returns of the day.

This number completes Vol. XXX. of the *St. George's Gazette*.

The Editor returns his sincere thanks to those who have been kind enough to remember him at this season; among those who have sent him Christmas cards are the Officers of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, the members of the Sergeants' Mess, 2nd Battalion, Sergeant-Major and Mrs. Wooll and Captain C. G. Leslie, 3rd Dragoon Guards, to all of whom he wishes the best of luck in the New Year.

Orders for Bound Volumes for 1912 should be sent as early as possible.

The Editor desires to draw attention to some of the paragraphs appearing under "The Editor's Corner" at the beginning of the *Gazette*, particularly to the paragraph relating to the date of arrival of contributions for the *Gazette*. **These contributions must reach the Editor by the first post on the 25th of the month and any drawings, &c., should reach him on 15th to give time for blocks to be made and for the paper to appear punctually.** If these dates are observed there is no reason why the *Gazette* should not appear on the date which it bears on the cover, public

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holidays, of course, excepted. But when, as has happened this month, although notes were asked for by the 20th December, on account of the public holiday, one particular set of notes has dribbled in day by day, and five days late into the bargain, each succeeding day bringing a fresh instalment, it is very difficult for the Editor to observe punctuality. The delay of a day or so may seem of little moment to correspondent or artist, but he forgets that each driblet as it comes in causes the complete re-arrangement of the "make-up" of the *Gazette* and adds considerably to the expense of production.

Had it not been for the late arrival of an illustration, which has delayed the publication of the paper, many of the batch of notes referred to above must have been excluded from this month's *Gazette*.

Letter to the Editor.

8, HIGHAM PLACE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
16th December, 1912.

DEAR SIR.—The Executive Committee Northumberland Fusiliers Aid Society beg to acknowledge with thanks the following additional subscriptions and donations for 1912:—

	Subscriptions. £ s. d.	Donations. £ s. d.
Previously acknowledged	132 11 6	1 0 0
Officers, 1st Battalion	11 8 7	
Officers disbanded, 3rd Battalion, through Major Moulton-Barrett (winding up of Bloemfontein Oil Co.)...		24 17 6
Total	£144 0 1	£25 17 6

Yours truly,
JAS. THOMSON, Major,
Secretary, Northumberland Fusiliers Aid Society.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MR. J. DIXON.—*Much obliged for your donation and good wishes, which are heartily reciprocated.* MR. R. W. ALLEN.—*Thanks for your good wishes, which are much appreciated.* MEMBERS, SERGEANTS' MESS, 2ND BATTALION.—*Many thanks for your Christmas card and good wishes.* SERGEANT-MAJOR WOOLL.—*Very glad to get your card and good wishes.*

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY.

EXTRACTS FROM *ST. GEORGE'S GAZETTE*,
DECEMBER 31st, 1887.

COLCHESTER, Saturday, December 31st, 1887.—For a week before the eventful day the huts presented an appearance of animation on account of the men decorating them up so as to make them look something like Christmas. To begin and judge as to which company should "take the cake" would be to attempt the impossible. All were beautiful, and when Colonel Vincent went round accompanied by the adjutant, the officers commanding the different companies received his wishes for "a merry Christmas" with cheers, lustily seconded by the men. Dancing—that favourite amusement of the Fusiliers—was kept up with great gusto in all the rooms, the music being supplied in some cases by a clan of whistlers, whose lungs must have been in excellent condition to stand the amount of blowing required of them by the lads and lasses, who tripped the light fantastic toe to their merry strains. The boys' room was very tastefully decorated and much credit is due to Corporal Dixon for the happy effect he succeeded in producing for the future defenders of Britain's honour. We were pleased to notice the well-worn flag of F Company floating from the stove-pipe of 11 and 12 hut, and were almost led to think we were gazing on the roof of Carrick Fergus Castle. Altogether Christmas in the Fusiliers' lines was really Christmas.

2ND BATTALION NOTES.—A correspondent writes that the 2nd Battalion left Meean Meer on the 27th October and, after travelling about the country to get rid of cholera apparently, arrived at Rawul Pindee on the 3rd December with a clean bill of health, cholera having quite disappeared. They are encamped just outside the fort, the other infantry regiments at Pindee being 1st Battalion, 12th Regiment, 33rd and 107th. A former paymaster of the 1st Battalion, Captain Irving, is also at Pindee attached to the King's Dragoon Guards. The draft which left Colchester in October had arrived at Rawul Pindee before the 2nd Battalion marched in.

DETACHMENT SICK;
OR,
THE DISAPPOINTED ENTHUSIAST.

A youth girt on his trusty sword and stood before the glass;
He was a budding officer, and of the zealous class.
Quoth he, "To one of these weak corps at home I'll not belong,
I want to see a regiment parade eight hundred strong."
And so he joined a corps at Gib., whose strength had been increased,
And, at the end of '81, they started for the East.
In '82 and '83 and even '84,
Our youth was with headquarters at a place called Sitapur;
As the left wing at Benares throughout that period stayed,
Four companies was all that he beheld upon parade;
And, even then, the other wing were worser off by far,
For they furnished a detachment at the famous fort Chunar.
The summer months of '85 at Swat Morar were spent,
And then a pair of companies to Agra shortly went,
And 'ere another company was sent to Gwalior's fort—
"I ne'er shall see eight companies in line," our hero thought.
Morar was given up, then came another split, forsooth,
Between Roorkee and Delhi, and the latter claimed our youth.
"Four companies again! 'Twill be his death," they all surmised;
But still he dreamed of Meerut and a "camp of exercise."
Such visions oft are vain, and his soon vanished into air;
But, stay! perhaps 'twere better if I tell you where they were;
Two companies at Roorkee stayed and two to Meerut tramped.
Three companies near Delhi ridge were somewhere out encamped.
"Where was the other company?" you say, "I've got one short."
Of course! the *other* company was left at Delhi fort.
Then as our hero hurried home, his ardour crushed and damped,
A company was marching to Chakrata's summer camp.
And even 'ere he bade farewell to India's sunny shore,
A detachment was reported to be going to Cawnpore.

* * * * * * * * * *

Sometimes they hear about him, and they well can understand,
That he pales before a bugle or a military band.
At clubs at home you'll meet him and you'll know him by a trick,
He has of waxing furious when called "Detachment Dick."

(Civil and Military Gazette.)

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THE GUN.

AN INCIDENT ON MANŒUVRES.

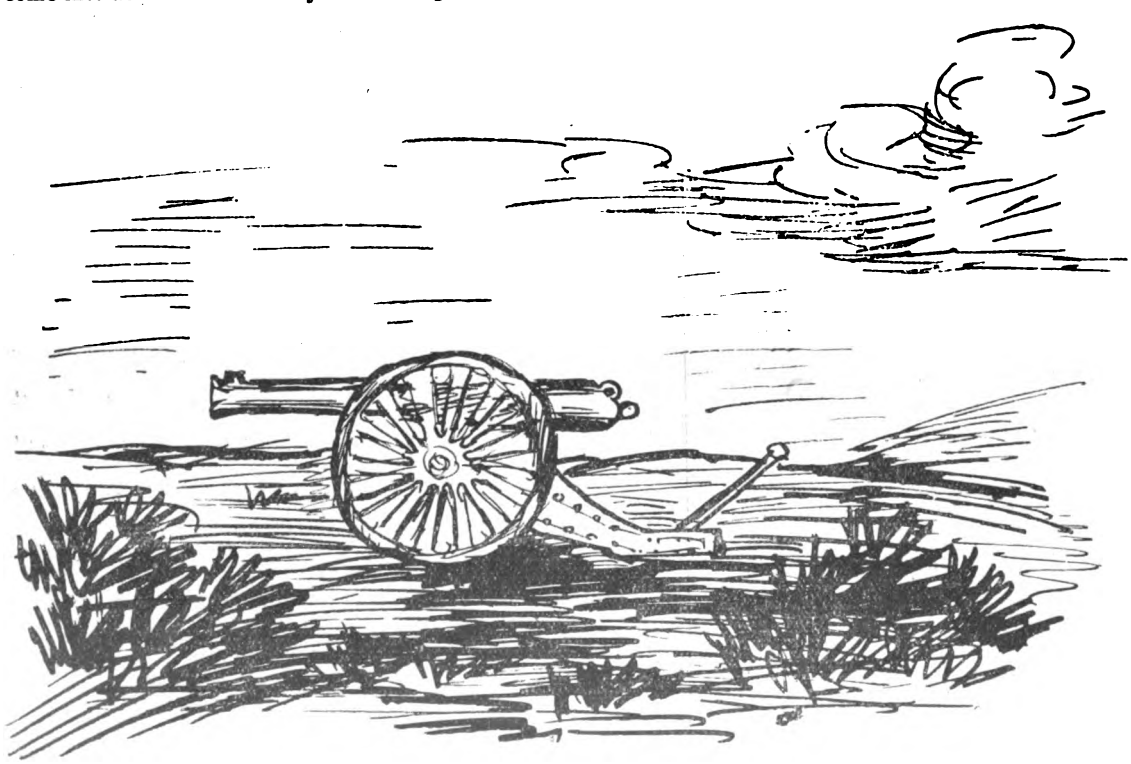
BY

"DISGUSTED."

. . . "*A sight that sent a thrill through every nerve.*"

THE day was hot. They had been up since four and battle was now joined. The mounted infantry troop had been fighting hard, well forward on one of the flanks. They were now retiring towards the sound of the guns, not knowing exactly where the main position lay. Suddenly the troop officer saw a sight that sent a thrill through every nerve. It was a gun, a gun outlined against the skyline. A common sight, you will say, especially on a field day. (You are more reserved when gunners are by). True enough, but this gun was pointing away from the troop, and they—the M.I.—were behind it. It was laid on their own side. Undoubtedly, then, an enemy's gun.

That morning the troop officer had not been lucky; he had come into action under the eyes of his captain and had been told that he was slow, that his methods were wrong. Here was a chance to retrieve his fallen fortunes: nay more, to cover his troop with glory. So he did what most young officers do under such circumstances: he consulted his troop sergeant. The troop sergeant was game, and said so in suitable terms. The men were next harangued. "There is a gun on that hill; we must capture it and put it out of action. The job is risky. We shall probably be captured ourselves. But it is worth the risk." The pleased smiles on the faces of the men indicated a cordial agreement. Next, the details were arranged, and plan of action decided on. Right files were to dismount for action while the remainder held their horses. The signal to mount was given and the troop trotted off on its dangerous mission.



The inspiration and the snare.

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A concealed approach was chosen, though of escort to the gun there was no sign visible. Fortune, once again, had favoured the brave. Suddenly the prize loomed upon the skyline, 400 yards ahead. "There it is; there's the gun!" came in excited whispers from behind. And still not a gunner to be seen. Were they lying concealed in their trenches, waiting for their opportunity, the opportunity which was to be so rudely snatched from their grasp? or had they all been shot? For these were R.A.M.C. manœuvres and casualties were often wanted for the perspiring stretcher-bearers to carry back to the ambulances. Still, the gun could be put out of action, and the breech block carried off as proof of the exploit. As these thoughts flashed through their minds the troop—who, by the way, belonged to the white force—was rapidly approaching its objective.

Arrived just below the crest of the hill, the men dismounted and stealthily approached the gun which remained hidden only by the crest of the hill and some friendly gorse bushes. The brow was reached. The force was collected. With a yell they charged—and found silence, utter stony silence. The gun had indeed been captured, but in a war long past, and from a nation with whom we have ensued peace for more than half a century. Now alone and quiet it stood on the hill overlooking the camp, an inspiration to the troops, but a snare to subalterns thirsting for glory. Glory, I hear you say, on a field day? It is not to be found. Well, the troop officer thought it was, but now he is many degrees wiser, and when he is old he will be cynical.

Meantime a very crestfallen troop had walked slowly back to the horses, and discomfiture was not diminished by a row of white hat-bands surmounting grinning faces which appeared over the now unfriendly gorse bushes and asked what the bloomin' Ikonas thought they were adoin' of.

Lastly the captain had to be faced, whose greeting to the troop officer was something like:—"Where the h—— have you been all this time? Why the deuce didn't you concentrate for fresh orders when you had done the job I gave you first?" The troop officer wishes he had concentrated. For him there will be no more quests for glory.

WITH AN INDIAN DRAFT.

(By F.S.R.).

THE voyage to India, as those are aware who have made it, lasts just three weeks. It is only fair to begin with some supremely stale piece of information like this, so that the reader of it who knows the East may take warning, and, turning the page, pass on to more interesting stuff; for he will find nothing in this record—let me say it explicitly—absolutely nothing but a commonplace narration of the everyday happenings on board a transport betwixt Southampton and Bombay. Like him we hoped many times aloud that the Bay of Biscay would chance to be on its good behaviour. Like him—unless he was a surly fellow and held both hands in his pockets—we waived our hand or handkerchief as the ship moved from the docks' side, and this whether or not a friend on shore was also waiving his (or her's), for the motion was as a general signal of adieu to the home country and accompanied by a nicely balanced mixture of feelings not all regretful nor yet all gay. Like him we noted the colour changes of the sea—steel grey in the Channel and southwards; pure blue in the Mediterranean; glowing with fiery red or silvery grey between Egypt and Arabia, as the setting sun or rising moon threw its reflection on the water. Nobody fell overboard; nobody grievously ill. Old Moore foretold the shipwreck of a Royal Regiment on its way to the East, and we carried the only Royal Regiment that leaves England this trooping season; yet the act of God did not occur, nor anything shocking or strange from the first hauling to the last weighing of anchor. Among the 1700 passengers there was not to record one birth, death or marriage. It was in short, just the typical trip from Europe to the East under the pleasant circumstances of unusual warmth between "Gib." and Port Said, unusual coolness in the Red Sea, and real landsman's fair weather all the time.

But the new comer to the East does fortunately not rely for his interest on great events. The new is ever wonderful, and the sight of distant land on a misty horizon, a convent window on a hill in Portugal flashing the sun's rays, or the spout and spray of a whale, hard to see among the tumbling white horses of the Indian Ocean—these and scores of things no more thrilling will draw him constantly to the taffrail and set him thinking that it was a piece of real good fortune that put his name on the draft at Sheffield instead of leaving it where it began (and where, perhaps he had half hoped it would stay)—third on the list of waiting men.

Even if there is no ship, dolphin, flying fish or whale to attract his attention, and land has so long been out of sight that he has almost begun to feel the horrible loneliness of the open sea there is still a choice of things to do on the troop deck. If only to stop for a moment the eternal question which rings up and down the deck, "Who says a fizzer?" "Who says a lemon?" he can imbibe the one or the other—"the last in the bucket," as the salesman's voice reiterates again and again; or else—and here he will be one of the majority—he can have a card at "House," the game which never ceases, morning, afternoon and evening, as those who live in the deck cabins hard by have good reason to remember. Indeed, when not mess-orderly or on guard, and except for ten o'clock parade when the Officer Commanding the troops makes the rounds of the lower decks, he will find that most of the day is his to spend as he likes and he will welcome, as a pleasant change, the sports—boxing, cock-fighting, tug-of-war and bolster fighting over a canvas tank—that sooner or later are sure to be arranged between the various detachments on board. On the particular voyage I have in mind, the tug-of-war seemed to arouse the greatest emulation; the cock-fighting was the most pathetic and the duel with bolsters astride a greasy pole the most ridiculous. As for the boxing, held in an extemporized ring on the forward hatchway, if no very great talent was shown there was at least one gory combat between two full blooded men with noses far too prominent for the occasion, and one surprise event in which a dark horse, though tired by previous contests, won on points against a sergeant-instructor with a reputation, which his physical condition was in no way able to sustain.

Cape Roca on the Portuguese coast, not far from Lisbon, was the first land sighted after leaving port. Houses and roads were visible enough on one side of it and on the other, but of people in motion one saw nothing, and the result was a curious impression of solitude, an impression enhanced by the craggy hills in the background, those same hills that formed part of the inner defences of Torres Vedras, where the Iron Duke stopped Massena and struck the first blow, though a passive one, that led three years later to the expulsion of the last Frenchman from Spain.

Thereafter for some days the shores of Europe and—east of "Gib."—of Africa, were plainly to be seen. Morocco, Algeria and Tunis were skirted in turn till the French naval port of Biserta was reached and our course shaped for the open sea once more. A French submarine at Biserta was seen floating off the barren hills that surround the ancient site of Carthage, and roused no little interest. She was not the only vessel belonging to our friends the French that came within good view, for at Port Said we passed a troopship bound for Marseilles, and carrying French soldiers in khaki and helmets back from Indo-China. The band of the King's Own Regiment played the "Marseillaise" as we dipped flag, and raised a cheer of acknowledgment from the foreign boat, while the officers, in cool white ducks, raised hats as our own National hymn began. Altogether we felt that we had gone one step further in the binding of the two nations in friendship and sympathy.

Port Said in itself has to be seen to be known, for no description can adequately portray its shoddiness, its muddy fly-blown streets, its dismal coloured shanties, its amazing mixture of races; the market was *en fête* with merry-go-rounds and all the appurtenances of a gipsy fair. Clusters of brown, black and whitish children in gaudy European frocks and frills were playing games or gaping at the side shows. The Mahommedan

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feast of Bairam was but three days distant, which accounted for the unusual gaiety in the market and the flags protruding from windows and roofs. But who would spend more than a week at such a place? As for us who landed, a little walking or driving, a drink of iced beer at the Continental Hotel, and the sight of conjurors and acrobats, with a purchase at one or two of the neighbouring shops, gave us as much acquaintance as we had stomach for with this ill-famed port of all nations. But at least the place was alive, and the streets full of people, though quiet for the lack of traffic. There was much to see, though when seen it might repel. Aden is different. Aden is treeless, and when you have said that you can say no worse thing. A merciful breeze tempered the sun throughout the morning of our arrival and at no time before eleven was it inconveniently hot; but it is not difficult to fancy how it could beat down on those "barren rocks" at another time of the year. What remains in the memory is the party of four in the boat that played on guitar and mandoline by the ship's side till the very moment of leaving. There was the man—a Frenchman or Italian, one could not be certain which, who sang in shirt sleeves and many tongues. One bronzed girl of sixteen or twenty played with him while another collected the coins thrown from the ship by holding out an inverted green umbrella. A very small native boy, with a tall red fez on his head, sat in the bows or toiled at an oar to keep the boat from drifting with the current. For more than an hour they played with quick untiring fingers, and undoubtedly reaped a richer harvest than the small traders busy in other boats with their wares. These were chiefly fruit and cigarettes, but some offered trinkets, and one required £3 for a large amber necklace, reported by someone with knowledge on board to be of the genuine substance. Money and goods passed up or down in baskets or handkerchiefs at the end of a string. Needless to say that prices went rapidly down as the time for sailing drew near, and when the syren hooted they suffered a positive crash, and some wise ones concluded quite reasonable bargains at the very last moment of all.

I write this before a window which looks straight out on the harbour of Bombay. The white yachts lie motionless before the Yacht Club, and the native dhows ply to and fro with their simple rigging and single three-cornered sails. Further out lies the transport which has been my home these last three weeks. She sails for England in a week. For myself I can vouch that I am safely landed, for the baggage I am not so sure. For sheer violence in the handling of it here from ship to barge or from barge to dockside would be hard to beat, and I shall be genuinely surprised if my boxes, made of mere tin or wood, survive the treatment. But everything, including the land of India, remains to be seen. The old hands describe the voyage out as the worst part and the least interesting. If so, all I can say to the man who is for the next draft—"You're a lucky fellow."

IN THE SLEEPING EXPRESS.

AN ALL-NIGHT SITTING.

By one of the Sitters.

(*From the "Morning Post."*)

HALF-past seven at King's Cross Station on a raw autumnal morning. The "sleeping car express" has just completed its twelve hours' journey from Aberdeen, and as it draws up alongside the platform six weary-eyed, crumpled-looking men tumble out of a third-class smoking compartment to join in the scramble for baggage by way of climax to the joys of an all-night sitting. We were six when we joined the train in the city of granite—554 miles "further north." There were two fishermen (partners in a herring drifter), who had left their homes by the shores of the Moray Firth at four o'clock the previous afternoon, a Scottish engineer who had recently returned from Argentina, a curate from the county of Kent, a man of horsy aspect, who said he had travelled a lot, and myself. We were through passengers, every one of us. At first we resented each other's company. Each with inward imprecations (the curate, of course, excepted) blamed the other for crowding into this one compartment, so that a "stretch out" for any of us was impossible. The horsy man was particularly indignant, because, as he afterwards confessed, he had "tipped" the guard to find him a "side." For the matter of that, I had done the same, but to his grief—a sorrow which the possession of a fat silver coin could not assuage—the man in charge of the train declared there was no "side" to be had. The best he could offer was a "corner." "The train's vera full th' nicht," he said, "but you'll get a lean to at any rate, and maybe at Edinboro' they'll be able to get you a side." In preparation for this happy prospect the horsy man and I invested a shilling each in the hire of a pillow and a rug, while the curate rolled up his overcoat and prepared for eventualities. The fishermen evidently had no desire to "woo the drowsy god," as they call him in the weekly papers, but filled the atmosphere with the pungent reek of the strongest twist tobacco, till the curate choked and gasped and timidly suggested that a little fresh air might be desirable. This was arranged for. Moreover, the fishermen were real gentlemen, for they retired into the corridor to continue their smoke with its accompaniment of copious expectoration.

Edinburgh—after a run of three hours and a half. A "through" conductor now takes charge of our train. I seek him out and explain the promise made at Aberdeen. He does not understand. I put my hand in my pocket. "Sorry, sir; we're quite full. Be thankful you've got a corner." The horsy man hints at half a sovereign, the price charged to first-class passengers for the privilege of occupying a berth in the sleeping-car. The guard was incorruptible. "Can't be done. It would be as much as my place is worth to do it." A cup of coffee served by a boy from a trolley on the platform is our only comfort. "Coffee's a fine thing to keep you awake," said the engineer from Argentina. The mockery of it—with a run of eight hours and twenty minutes all through the night before King's Cross shall dawn on our drowsy senses! We're off now for a straight run of 124 miles to Newcastle. The coffee has thawed us into conversational mood, and as the express goes roaring and rattling across the Tweed at Berwick and we are on English soil we talk of the hardships of sleep denied in a sleeping express.

"The railway companies should be compelled by Act of Parliament to provide third-class passengers with sleeping accommodation," said the man from Argentina. "I call this a torture-chamber. You can't even spread out your feet for fear of kicking your neighbour's shins."

"Yes," replied the curate, who had nearly dislocated his neck in an effort to fall asleep on his own chest, "something certainly should be done. The third-class passengers are the best friends of the railway companies, who won't even sell them a night's lodging at any price because they have not paid first-class fare. They would rather run their sleeping-cars empty than let a berth to a man with a third-class ticket."

"And many a time they do it too," said the horsy man. "I have known sleepers run from Edinburgh with only half-a-dozen beds occupied, and plenty of third-class travellers willing to fill them up at half-a-sovereign a time, but the companies won't allow it."

"The company that first runs sleepers for all its passengers on night trains will get the traffic," the curate remarked.

The man who had travelled a lot laughed scornfully. "Don't you know," he said, "that the companies have entered into an arrangement—a conspiracy, I call it—not to provide sleeping accommodation for third-class fares? Of course, if one began it the others would be bound to follow suit. But nobody's going to begin, and Parliament isn't going to compel them. There's an M.P.—Morton, I think it is, the member for Sutherlandshire—who has been hammering away at this thing for years, but nobody takes any notice of him. Parliament could compel the companies, but it won't,

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and it's no use talking about it. Of course, it could easily be done, but it would cost a bit in the shape of a new type of carriage fitted up with bunks, and as the companies have a monopoly they would be fools to waste their shareholders' money on such luxuries. When there's room and you have a few shillings to spare the guard will find you a side. The train's full to-night, and we are not in luck—that's all."

"Yet it seems very hard, somehow," mused the curate. The fishermen said nothing, but smoked pipe after pipe with evident enjoyment. They said they were going ultimately to Lowestoft, where a lot of Scotch boats were prosecuting the herring fishing, and they supposed they would get there some time.

Newcastle, and the time 1.45 a.m. It had slipped by somehow. The fishermen now took charge of the all-night debate. Their talk was of herrings. They had travelled from Buckie, in Banffshire, and they were cheered by the news of a good fishing at Lowestoft. These men lived for herrings and the herrings died for them. They followed the herrings all round the British Isles. From Lowestoft they were moving to the Cornish coast, then up the west coast of Ireland to the Western Isles and Stornoway, from Stornoway to Lerwick, then to their native Buckie, afterwards to Scarborough, and so back to Lowestoft again. Thus with brief intervals these hardy sons of the sea pursue the herrings wherever they may be found from January to December. They had their own theories on the subject of the migratory movements of the herring, "but," said one of them, by way of clinching a dubious argument, "it really comes to this, that naebody kens. Your scientific folk pretend to ken, but how can they tell what practical men like us canna tell?" "How do you find your herring shoals?" I asked. "Watch the sea-gulls. They'll soon show you where the herrings are. But it's a queer fish, the herring. The Loch Fyne herring, now, is a kind by itself, and you never meet it far from the shores of that loch. Then there's the sprat, the pilchard, the sardine, and a lot of other fish of the herring kind." "Haud your tongue, Sandy," said his friend; "you're haiverin'. A herring's no' a sprat, and a sprat's no' a herring. I've proved it. The herring has 120 rib bones, and the sprat has 121." "How interesting," chimed in the curate, who had been nodding again, and started into consciousness at the mention of rib bones. "Ou, aye," said the fisherman, "but I dinna count the bones every time."

York, 3.45.—An official, looking aggressively fresh and fit, relieves us of our tickets. He at least has had a good sleep. I make a last desperate effort to negotiate a "side," but in vain. "Train very full, to-night; can't make it out," says the official, with a robust cheeriness that evokes a groan from the curate, who is now the most distressed member of the conclave. The horsy man is reminiscent of York. "Remember well," he says, "when there was no restaurant-cars. They used to give the passengers twenty minutes to dine at York. Collected your money first, and when you had swallowed a spoonful or two of scalding soup and munched a crust of bread, the porters used to ring bells and yell out: 'All for the North,' or 'Take your seats for London.' If the waiter was friendly he would allow you to cram a pork pie or a decoy sandwich into your pocket to eat in the train. Sometimes you would get the original Chelsea bun. It was always there—that bun—when it was wanted. It bore a charmed life. Old age could not kill it." He laughed boisterously at this pleasantry, and said that after all there was a lot to be thankful for. Railway travelling was so much more comfortable now in every way than it used to be. By this time he had recovered from his discomposure at not getting a "side," and, spreading out his hired rug on his knees, he suggested a game at another kind of "nap." The engineer was willing, but the curate said he did not play cards, and the fishermen and I said we did not care to. Then the horsy man and the engineer fell to talking about the temperance question. They both agreed that from the point of view of promoting temperance early closing was a delusion and a snare. "You can get plenty to drink in Aberdeen on Sunday. I've had it," said the man from Argentina. The curate shuddered. The fishermen having smoked incessantly took to chewing for a change.

Peterborough, and the hour 6 a.m.—All hope of sleep was now banished. As we whirled through Huntingdon the chill dawn came creeping up from the east, and a frosty dew on the grass gave one the shivers to look at it. There was a friendliness about the roar of the tunnel at Hadley Wood, for it told us that the hour of our deliverance was at hand and soon it came. The night express from Scotland is a great—an indispensable—institution, but in one respect it is inferior to the Thames Embankment as it was until recently. You can't get a "side" when you want it.

1812 IN THE PENINSULA.

DECEMBER.

(*Concluded from page 152.*)

Thus ended the famous retreat from Burgos. It had been conducted with great strategic skill and the Allies had escaped more than once from positions which threatened the gravest dangers yet, but for the excesses of the troops, due very largely to inadequate arrangements with regard to the baggage and the issue of rations, and which entailed a heavy loss in stragglers, they would have lost but very few men in spite of the undoubted hardships of the retreat.

Lord Wellington in his official despatches bears witness to the severity of the weather, "which since 13th has been worse than I have ever known at this season of the year," though in a subsequent letter to his Divisional and Brigade Commanders he makes light of it.

It is interesting to note in another despatch the explanation which he himself gives of his failure at Burgos and to which his subsequent retreat was due, "the fault of which I was guilty in the expedition to Burgos was, not that I undertook the operation with inadequate means but that I took there the most inexperienced instead of the best troops. I left at Madrid the 3rd, 4th and Light Divisions, who had been with myself always before, and I brought with me that were good, the 1st Division, and they were inexperienced." On reaching Ciudad Rodrigo the army was despatched to its cantonments on both banks of the Upper Agueda and between the Agueda and the Coa, when it was found that the French had fallen back across the Tormes. Many of the stragglers returned to their corps, the cavalry, in spite of their very serious loss in horses, bringing in some 1,000 or 1,500 of them on the day after they reached Ciudad Rodrigo; yet many of the stragglers must have perished from stress of weather and want of food. Once in their cantonments, efforts were made to repair the ravages of the campaign, and strict injunctions were issued for the men to be completely equipped with necessaries as soon as the balances due on the estimates of August were received.

Further instructions were given with regard to the establishment of regimental hospitals in the cantonments to which the sick men of each regiment were to be sent; this was a wise provision, for if the troops had suffered during the retreat the full extent of the suffering did not show itself until cantonments were reached when the regimental hospitals were quickly filled and many men died.

The campaign of 1812 had undoubtedly been a great disappointment for the British Commander-in-Chief. Opening under brilliant auspices with the seizure of Ciudad Rodrigo and the storming of Badajos the campaign culminated in the crushing victory at Salamanca and the entry into Madrid. The failure at Burgos and the unexpectedly quick recovery of the French from the blow at Salamanca necessitated a retreat, which without being a disaster, yet brought the Allies to the frontiers of Portugal and cost them some 7000 men.

But even this disappointment and the failure of all his plans scarcely justify the condemnatory letter which Lord Wellington addressed to the officers commanding divisions and brigades, dated Freneda, the 28th November.

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This letter, which we give almost in full, was intended to be addressed to general officers only and to be regarded by them as confidential, but unluckily found its way into regimental order books and so into the London papers. Lord Wellington is said to have been much displeased at this, but he was not alone in his displeasure, though that of the subordinate officers arose from another cause; nearly every one of these officers who has written of this campaign has condemned the letter as unjust, in that it made no distinction between the behaviour of well-disciplined regiments and disorderly ones. The letter is as follows:—

"To Officers Commanding Divisions and Brigades.

"FRENEDA, 28th November.

"GENTLEMEN,

"I have ordered the Army into cantonments, in which I hope that circumstances will enable me to keep them for some time, during which the troops will receive their clothing, necessaries, etc., which are already in progress by different lines of communication to the several divisions of brigades.

"But besides these objects I must draw your attention in a very particular manner to the state of discipline of the troops. The discipline of every army after a long and active campaign becomes in some degree relaxed . . . . but I am concerned to have to observe that the Army under my command has fallen off in this respect in the late campaign to a greater degree than any army with which I have ever served or of which I have ever read. Yet this army has met with no disaster; it has suffered no privations which but trifling attention on the part of the officers could not have prevented, and for which there existed no reason whatever in the nature of the service; nor has it suffered any hardships excepting those resulting from the necessity of being exposed to the inclemencies of the weather at a moment when they were most severe. It must be obvious, however, to every officer that from the moment the troops commenced their retreat from the neighbourhood of Burgos on the one hand and from Madrid on the other, the officers lost all command of their men. Irregularities and outrages of all descriptions were committed with impunity and losses have been sustained which ought never to have occurred.

"Yet the necessity for retreat existing, none was ever made on which the troops had such short marches; none on which they made such long and repeated halts; and none on which the retreating armies were so little pressed on their rear by the enemy. . . . . I have no hesitation in attributing these evils to the habitual inattention of the officers of the regiments to their duty as prescribed by the standing regulations of the Service, and by the orders of this army. I am far from questioning the zeal, still less the gallantry and spirit of the officers of the Army. . . . . Unfortunately the inexperience of the officers of the Army has induced many to consider that the period during which an army is on service is one of relaxation from all rule, instead of being, as it is, the period during which, of all others, every rule for the regulation and control of the conduct of the soldier, for the inspection and care of his arms, ammunition, accoutrements, necessaries and field equipment, and his horse and horse appointments; for the receipt and issue and care of his provisions; and for the regulation of all that belongs to his food and the forage of his horse, must be most strictly attended to by the officers of his company or troop, if it is intended that an army, a British army in particular, shall be brought into the field of battle in a state of efficiency to meet the enemy on the day of trial.

"These are the points then to which I most earnestly intreat you to turn your attention and the attention of the officers of the regiments under your command, Portuguese as well as English, during the period in which it may be in my power to leave the troops in their cantonments. The commanding officers of regiments must enforce the orders of the Army regarding the inspection and superintendence of the officers over the conduct of the men of their companies in their cantonments; and they must endeavour to inspire the non-commissioned officers with a sense of their situation and authority; and the non-commissioned officers must be forced to do their duty by being constantly under the view and superintendence of the officers . . . . The commanding officers of regiments must likewise enforce the orders of the Army regarding the constant real inspection of the soldiers' arms, ammunition, accoutrements and necessaries, in order to prevent, at all times, the shameful waste of ammunition and the sale of that article and of the soldiers' necessaries. With this view both should be inspected daily.

"In regard to the food of the soldier, I have frequently observed and lamented in the late campaign the facility and celerity with which the French soldiers cooked in comparison with those of our army.

"The cause of this disadvantage is the same with that of every other description, the want of attention of the officers to the orders of the Army, and the conduct of their men, and the consequent want of authority over their conduct. Certain men of each company should be appointed to cut and bring in wood, others to fetch water, and others to get the meat, etc., to be cooked; and it would soon be found that if this practice were daily enforced, and a particular hour for serving the dinners, and for the men dining, named as it ought to be, equally as for parade, that cooking would no longer require the inconvenient length of time which it has lately been found to take and that the soldiers would not be exposed to the privation of their food at the moment at which the army may be engaged in operations with the enemy. You will, of course, give your attention to the field exercise and discipline of the troops. It is very desirable that the soldiers should not lose the habits of marching and the Division should march ten or twelve miles twice in each week, if the weather should permit, and the roads in the neighbourhood of the cantonments of the Division should be dry. But I repeat that the great object of the attention of the general and field officers must be to get the captains and subalterns of the regiments to understand and perform the duties required from them, as the only mode by which the discipline and efficiency of the army can be restored and maintained during the next campaign.

"I have, etc.

"The Officers Commanding

"Divisions and Brigades."

Such was the letter which roused a storm of suppressed protest amongst the junior officers of the Peninsular army. It is a letter in which scarcely a single duty of officer or man escapes the severest condemnation, which in relation to many corps was quite unmerited and unjust. As regards the comparison of the cooking capacities of French and English soldiers it must be remembered that while the former were campaigning in a country which they regarded as an enemy's country, although a French king was the nominal ruler, and that it was always the custom of the French armies to live on the country they were fighting in, widely divergent ideas were prevalent among the British. For them Spain and Portugal were friendly countries, their inhabitants were their Allies and their country and property were strictly preserved as far as possible. Hence while the French made use of the material at hand for fuel, usually the door posts, doors, window frames of the nearest houses, etc., British troops had often to go miles to cut wood. Grattan, in common with many other writers on this campaign, fastens on this question of cooking. "What means," he writes, "had the soldiers of the Peninsular Army to compete with the French in celerity of cooking? None. The latter carried their cooking utensils on their backs, while the camp kettles for our troops were often leagues distant when the meat arrived . . . . the subordinate officers of the army were blamed for not performing a duty which was impossible . . . . Our system was faulty and no exertions of the junior or even senior officers could remedy it."

It is further to be remembered that a Frenchman has a natural aptitude for cooking which the Briton has never had.

Soult's army did not continue the pursuit after reaching the Huebra but retraced their steps across the Tormes whence they like the Allies went into winter quarters.

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THE DIGEST OF SERVICE.

(*Continued from April, 1912, Supplement.*)

September 30th.—On this day the following Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers were mentioned in Despatches in the *London Gazette* :—

Lieutenant-Colonel C. G. C. Money
Major Hon. C. Lambton
Captain and Adjutant G. L. S. Ray
Colour-Sergeant T. Burdett
Sergeant-Drummer J. Cordial
Sergeant A. Bannerman (since deceased).

The following appeared in the *London Gazette* of November 15th :—

" Most Honourable Order of the Bath Lieutenant-Colonel C. G. C. Money, 1st Northumberland Fusiliers, to be an ordinary member of the Military Division of the 3rd Class, or Companion of the said Most Honourable Order.

" To be Companion of the Distinguished Service Order—

" Major Hon. C. Lambton.

" Brevets—

Captain G. L. S. Ray to be Major.

" The Queen, further, has been pleased to approve the grant of the Medal for Distinguished Conduct in the Field to the undermentioned :—

" Colour-Sergeant T. Burdett
" Sergeant-Drummer J. Cordial
" Sergeant A. Bannerman (since deceased)."

October 3rd.—The Battalion embarked on board the hired transport *Jelunga* for Crete. Strength 20 Officers, 791 N.C.O.'s and Men. As we were ordered to travel " light " and equipped for active service the heavy baggage was left behind at Alexandria, as well as a Depôt at Mustapha, consisting of Lieutenant Buckley and 144 sick and weakly N.C.O.'s and Men. This number includes all who had been left behind at the various hospitals in Egypt.

October 6th.—The Battalion disembarked at Kandia, and pitched camp in Telegraph Detachment Lines near the harbour. It was near this part of the town that the disturbances occurred on September 6th, when the rioters (Bashis) fired on some men of the 71st Highland Light Infantry, and sailors landed from H.M.S. *Hazard*, and massacred a large number of Christians and burnt their houses.

The troops in Kandia consisted of 5th Fusiliers, 23rd Fusiliers, 71st Highland Light Infantry, 20th Lancashire Fusiliers, 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade, a detachment of Garrison Artillery with six guns, some Army Service Corps, Army Ordnance Corps, and Royal Army Medical Corps. They were considered to be on active service as far as discipline was concerned. On our arrival in Kandia no one in the Garrison was allowed out of their lines, unless accompanied by an armed escort; the rule was gradually relaxed, and about the middle of November the troops were allowed to walk out between 2 and 5 p.m., and unarmed.

During October, and the early part of November, a Military Court composed of Officers of the Army and Navy, stationed at Kandia, sat for the purpose of trying Moslems charged with murdering Lieutenant Haldane and certain soldiers of the 71st Highland Light Infantry, and seamen of H.M.S. *Hazard*; these being sentenced to death were hanged in batches, as under:—

7 on the 18th October. 5 on the 30th October. 5 on the 11th November.

An Officer's party (30 N.C.O.'s and Men) attended each execution, and 25 per cent. of the strength of Battalions in Garrison were under arms at their respective defence posts during the executions. Everything passed off quietly on each occasion.

October 21st.—G Company, under Captain D. Sapte, proceeded on outpost duty on this date. They were distributed as under :—2 Officers, 54 N.C.O.'s and Men at Skalani, 1 Officer and 46 N.C.O.'s and Men at Epano Vathia. Skalani is about eight miles from Kandia, and Epano Vathia about eleven. These distances are longer than they appear on paper, as communication is very difficult in this part of Crete, and there are no roads worth speaking of.

November 5th.—The four Powers, England, France, Russia, Italy, had sent an ultimatum to the Porte, that the Turkish troops were to be withdrawn from Crete (there were about six battalions in and around Kandia), and a month was given to carry this out. The month having expired on November 4th, and as about 500 Turkish troops remained in the town of Kandia, the English troops were ordered, next day, to make them leave their barracks and to escort them to the quay, where they were embarked without any force having to be used.

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November 7th.—Captain F. C. Turner and 45 N.C.O.'s and Men of C Company proceeded on outpost duty to Episkope, 12 miles from Kandia.

November 14th.—Captain C. H. L. James and 60 N.C.O.'s and Men of B Company proceeded to Anapolis on outpost duty, 12 miles from Kandia.

December 3rd.—Lieutenant Percival and 91 N.C.O.'s and Men arrived from Malta on this date. These men belonged to a draft which was sent out from England by the 2nd Battalion on October 26th.

December 7th.—Lieutenant Lynch-Staunton and 32 Men of D Company proceeded to Karakas on outpost duty, distance from Kandia, 30 miles.

December 22nd.—The Headquarters of the Battalion removed to the Greek Hospital, on the west side of the town. The Greek Hospital accommodated one Company, and the remainder were quartered in tents in the vicinity, and in huts on the ramparts. D and E Companies remained at the Telegraph Detachment. Previous to this, the 23rd Fusiliers left Kandia for Hong Kong, the 71st Highland Light Infantry for England, and the 20th Lancashire Fusiliers for Malta.

The undermentioned :—

Second-Lieutenant W. A. Lonsdale Hale
„ H. V. Fison
Two Colour-Sergeants
Two Sergeants
Two Lance-Sergeants
Three Corporals
One Lance-Corporal
One Drummer
23 Privates

died from disease contracted during the Sudan Campaign, 1898.

Date.	Station.	Effectives.				Increase.			Decrease.				
1898		Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Privates.	Transfer from other Corps.	From Home Battn.	Total.	Died.	Transfer to other Corps.	Discharged.	Sent Home from Abroad.	Total.
1st January	Gibraltar ..	46	41	16	895	1	113	114	38	2	1	136	177
31st December	Crete ..	43	37	14	841								
	Increase ..												
	Decrease ..	3	4	2	54								

1899. February 16th.—By War Office letter, dated February 16th, 1899, No. 35/A.L./2036, all troops who were in Crete between May 1st, 1897, and November 30th, 1898, were to have recorded in their Military History Sheets "Occupation of Crete, 1898." Army Order No. 163, dated December, 1898, authorized troops employed in the Sudan being allowed to accept the Khedive's medal and clasps, and by Army Order No. 49, dated March, 1899, a Queen's medal was authorized for the same, but without clasps.

February 22nd.—On this date a draft, consisting of 1 Colour-Sergeant, 2 Sergeants, 1 Corporal and 116 Rank and File, arrived at Malta from the 2nd Battalion. This draft never came to Crete, but received orders to hold itself in readiness to proceed home, in the hired transport *Dilwara*, on April 7th.

March 16th.—Orders were received to hold the Battalion in readiness to proceed to Aldershot by half-battalions, there to be quartered till it went to the West Indies in the autumn.

The Headquarters of the Battalion and A, B, C and part of D Company, with 112 time-expired men, about 450 Rank and File, embarked at Kandia on April 6th on board the hired transport *Verona* for conveyance to England, where they arrived on April 19th. The left half-Battalion and the remainder of D Company, about 400 N.C.O.'s and Men, under Major E. W. Dashwood, were left in Crete to await the return of the *Verona*. The Depôt Company (Malta), under Lieutenant Percival, left Malta on April 5th in the hired transport *Dilwara*, arriving in England on April 15th. On the arrival of the Headquarters of the Battalion at Southampton all the time-expired men were immediately transferred to the 1st Class Army Reserve. All N.C.O.'s and Men who could be spared were sent on furlough either at Southampton or on arrival at Aldershot; about 100 remaining for duty. These were accommodated in Badajoz, Talavera and Salamanca Barracks, Wellington Lines. The Officers were taken in as honorary members of the 2nd West Yorkshire Regiment Mess.

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All available Officers, N.C.O.'s and Men attended Divine Service at St. George's Church, Aldershot, on St. George's Day, wearing red and white roses according to custom. That part of the Battalion remaining at Kandia kept St. George's Day in the usual manner, and on May 5th (St. George's Day), according to the Greek calendar, at the request of Major-General Sir H. Chermside, G.C.M.G., commanding British troops in Crete, Major Dashwood, Lieutenant Coates and one N.C.O. and Man from each Company attended the religious ceremony in the Greek Cathedral at Kandia; a complimentary telegram was also sent to Prince George of Greece at Canea, to which he graciously replied in due course.

The Detachment left in Crete embarked on the hired transport *Verona* on May 10th, arriving at Southampton on May 23rd. It is worthy of remark that, on embarkation at Kandia, each officer and man was presented with a floral tribute by the Christian inhabitants of Kandia as a token of respect.

May 28th.—The Colonel of the Regiment, Lieutenant-General Willis, C.B., died, and Lieutenant-General B. Milman, C.B., late 5th Fusiliers, was shortly afterwards gazetted to the Colonelcy. By Army Order 106, dated June, 1899, Her Majesty the Queen was graciously pleased to approve of the Northumberland Fusiliers, in recognition of certain services rendered in the Sudan Expedition, 1898, bearing upon the Colours the word "Khartoum."

June 12th.—Rifles, Magazine, Lee Metford, Mark II., were issued to the Battalion. New pattern entrenching tools were also received on June 15th.

The Battalion had, in conjunction with the remainder of the troops in the Aldershot Command, the honour of being reviewed by H.M. the Queen on Laffan's Plain on June 26th. Her Majesty, in a General Order, was pleased to express her entire satisfaction at the appearance of the troops.

The Battalion went under canvas at Rushmoor on July 4th.

August 8th.—The Battalion, with the exception of a small Detachment left behind at Aldershot, under Lieutenant Lethbridge, proceeded by train to Grately Station, thence by march seven miles to Bulford Camp, to take part in the Salisbury Plain manœuvres. Major-General Sir W. Gatacre, K.C.B., D.S.O., commanded the Division of which the Battalion formed a part, Colonel Ian Hamilton, C.B., D.S.O., commanding our Brigade. The troops were exercised each day in battalion or brigade drills and manœuvres.

By War Office letter, dated August 22nd, Her Majesty was pleased to approve of the Northumberland Fusiliers re-adopting gosling green facings for their tunics; the privilege was naturally much appreciated by all ranks.

Canvas shoes were issued free to the troops on August 23rd and the issue will be repeated annually.

September 2nd.—The Battalion proceeded to Ash Camp, near Aldershot, for the Annual Musketry Course.

September 9th.—Orders were received for the Battalion to hold itself in readiness to embark about September 16th for South Africa. As the Battalion was ordered to travel light, all heavy baggage was stored in Badajoz Barracks, Wellington Lines. The Battalion was just able to complete Table B Annual Course of Musketry before leaving England.

September 16th.—The Battalion proceeded by two trains to Southampton, a great many officers and friends in the district bidding us good-bye at the Government Siding, Aldershot. On arriving at Southampton the Battalion proceeded at once to embark in the hired freight ship *Gaul*, Union Line. Strength of the Battalion on embarkation:—

27 Officers	39 Corporals
2 Warrant Officers	1 Armourer-Sergeant
39 Sergeants	689 Privates
14 Drummers	811 All Ranks

Considerably under strength, it must be owned, owing to the number of men who had been transferred to the Reserve during our five months' stay in England. Lieutenant-Colonel C. G. C. Money, C.B., commanded the troops on board. A great many old Officers and Officers of the 2nd Battalion stationed at Portsmouth came to Southampton to wish us all "God speed," and the *Gaul* weighed anchor soon after 3 p.m. on the 16th for Natal, amidst a scene of considerable enthusiasm, as war with the South African Republics seemed inevitable, and this was the first battalion to leave England for South Africa.

October 7th.—On arrival at Cape Town it was ordered to disembark there instead of proceeding to Natal.

October 9th.—The Battalion disembarked and proceeded direct from the docks by train to Stellenbosch Camp, about 30 miles from Cape Town. There it was intended it should form a mounted infantry company of 5 Officers and 115 Rank and File, draw the transport vehicles and mules and the mobilization equipment.

October 10th.—Sudden orders were received to proceed up country by train, the destination was not given, and the Battalion left Stellenbosch about midnight. The M.I. Company composed as under:—

Captain and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C. E. Keith-Falconer
Lieutenant H. T. Crispin
„ F. Bevan
„ H. S. Toppin
„ H. C. Hall

with 6 Sergeants, 6 Corporals, 82 Privates, 1 Farrier-Sergeant, 3 Shoeing Smiths, 1 Saddler, 10 Batmen, 2 Cooks and 2 Wagon

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Men, were left to be equipped and get their horses. Also 1 Officer, 1 Sergeant and 18 Men to draw the transport equipment. While on the journey on the 11th we heard that President Kruger had sent an ultimatum to the British Government to the effect that, unless our troops were withdrawn from the borders of the Orange Free State and Transvaal and those at sea ordered to return to England, he would take it as an act of hostility and would take measures accordingly. The time given in the ultimatum expired on October 11th.

October 12th.—We reached De Aar and were ordered to detrain and encamp. Other troops already there were half 2nd Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and departmental details. Lieutenant-Colonel Money, being senior officer, took command.

October 14th.—The M.I. Company and transport arrived at De Aar. De Aar is an important junction on the railway line. It was prepared for defence by the troops.

October 15th.—The Battalion proceeded by train to Orange River Station, leaving the M.I. Company at De Aar. Lieutenant-Colonel Money assumed command of the troops, which consisted of half 1st Battalion Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, half 2nd Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers, two guns and two maxims, manned by Royal Garrison Artillery, half 7th Field Company Royal Engineers and other details. The Battalion encamped round the railway station. We enlisted 12 Colonials as scouts. These men had intended travelling as private individuals to Kimberley, but found rail communication had been cut off by the Boers. They offered their services voluntarily, and after being nearly a month with us as "Northumberland Scouts" were incorporated with Remington's Scouts.

Orange River Railway Bridge was put in a state of defence, and to prevent the Boers coming by the Hopetown Road Bridge a few miles to the west, Lieutenant-Colonel Money ordered it to be destroyed by the Royal Engineers.

October 18th.—The 9th Lancers arrived from India under Lieutenant-Colonel B. Gough, who took over the command of the troops from Lieutenant-Colonel Money. First Class Army Reservists residing in South Africa were now called up and 62 were sent to join the Battalion. On October 21st the M.I. Company arrived from De Aar. Large quantities of supplies were now hurried up, as Orange River Station was to be the base for the 1st Division, and for six weeks the Battalion was well employed in unloading trains and stacking up the supplies, besides having plenty of outpost duty. Colonel the Hon. G. H. Gough arrived on October 30th and took the command of the troops from Lieutenant-Colonel B. Gough.

Extract from Army Orders, South Africa, No. 1, dated March 26th, 1900:—"It is notified for information that the undermentioned men have been awarded testimonials on vellum by the Royal Humane Society:—

No. 4145 Private B. Wilson, 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers
„ 3739 „ S. Garrity „ „ „
„ 5058 „ P. Hogan, 1st Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers

for having rescued Private C. Leary, Royal Munster Fusiliers, from drowning at the Orange River Station, Cape Colony, on October 17th, 1899. The testimonials are retained until operations in South Africa are over, in the office of the I.G.R. War Office Authority.—W.O. Letter No. 68 (Humane Society) 741, dated February 27th, 1900."

November 10th.—In a reconnaissance towards Belmont the M.I. Company and other troops were engaged, under Colonel Hon. G. H. Gough, for the first time, and the Regiment suffered a great loss by the death of Captain and Brevet-Lieutenant-Colonel C. E. Keith-Falconer, who was shot while commanding his men. Lieutenant F. Bevan and Lieutenant H. C. Hall were severely wounded, but none of our men. It was very evident that the Boers must have singled out the officers. One other officer, Lieutenant Wood, of the 1st Battalion Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, was also killed and only two men in the force wounded. Captain and Brevet-Major G. L. S. Ray was appointed to command the M.I. Company and Lieutenant B. T. Buckley attached.

November 12th.—Lieutenant-General Lord Methuen arrived to command the 1st Division. On various dates a Brigade-Division of Artillery (62nd, 75th, 78th Batteries), the 2nd Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment, 2nd Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and the Guards Brigade under Major-General Sir H. Colville (3rd Battalion Grenadiers, 1st and 2nd Battalions Coldstream and 1st Battalion Scots Guards) arrived and the troops now at Orange River formed the 1st Division.

November 13th.—Captain F. C. Turner joined from the Staff College and made up our full complement of Officers.

November 18th.—The Battalion moved to the north side of the Orange River and the 9th Brigade was formed under Major-General R. S. Fetherstonehaugh, consisting of 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, half 1st Battalion Loyal North Lancashire Regiment (the other half was shut up in Kimberley), 2nd Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment and 2nd Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. Owing to the fact of so many Officers having been killed and wounded in action on the Natal side, their being differently equipped to the men having made them conspicuous, an order was issued that Officers should wear the valise straps like the men and carry rifles in action. As difficulty occurred in distinguishing Officers thus equipped by our own staff, it was afterwards ordered that Officers should wear on the upper part of the back of their coat a badge similar to that worn on the helmet. We wore a 2in. square patch of red. The distinguishing badge worn by other regiments was the shoulder strap from the red serge jacket sewn on the side of the puggaree.

(To be continued.)

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